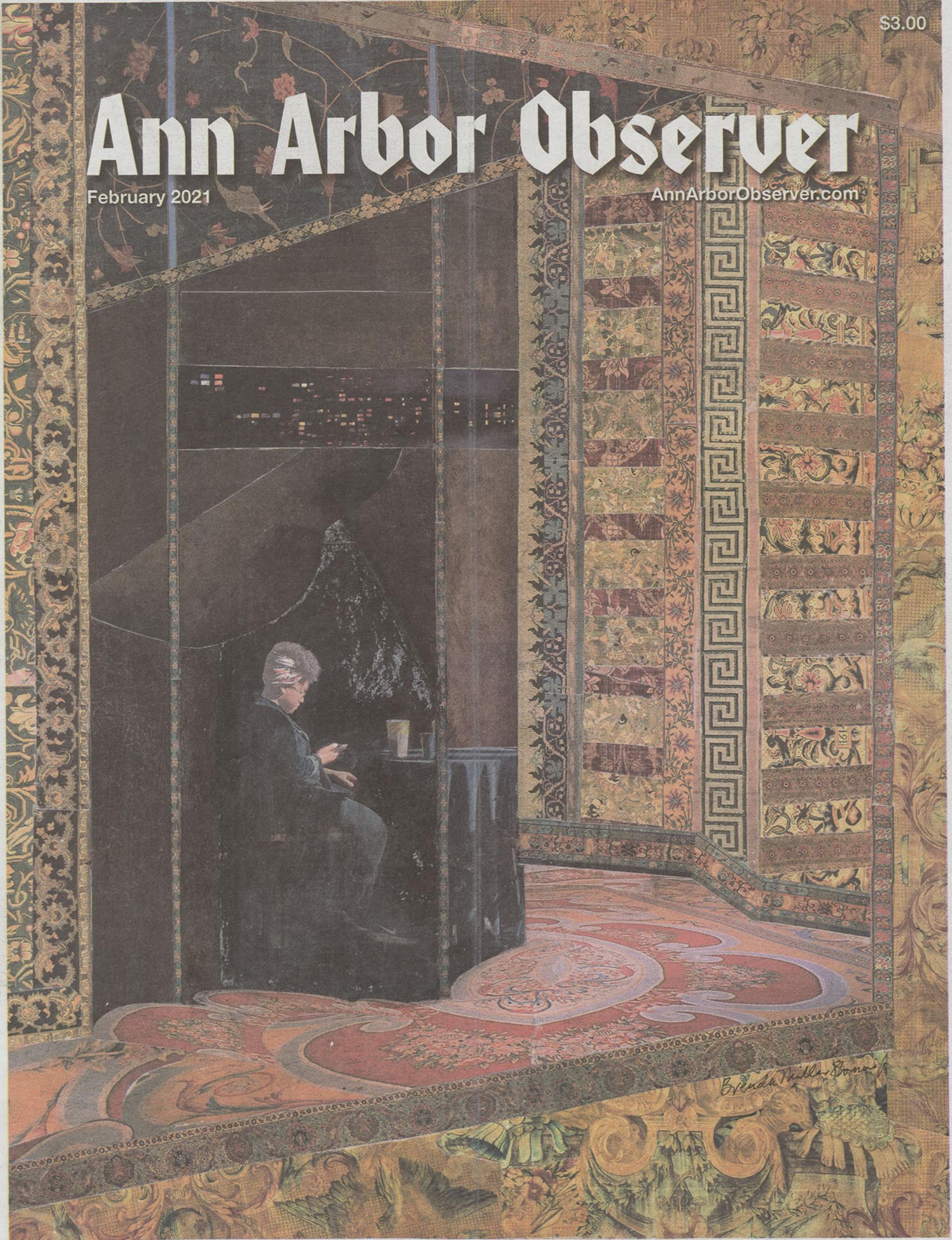


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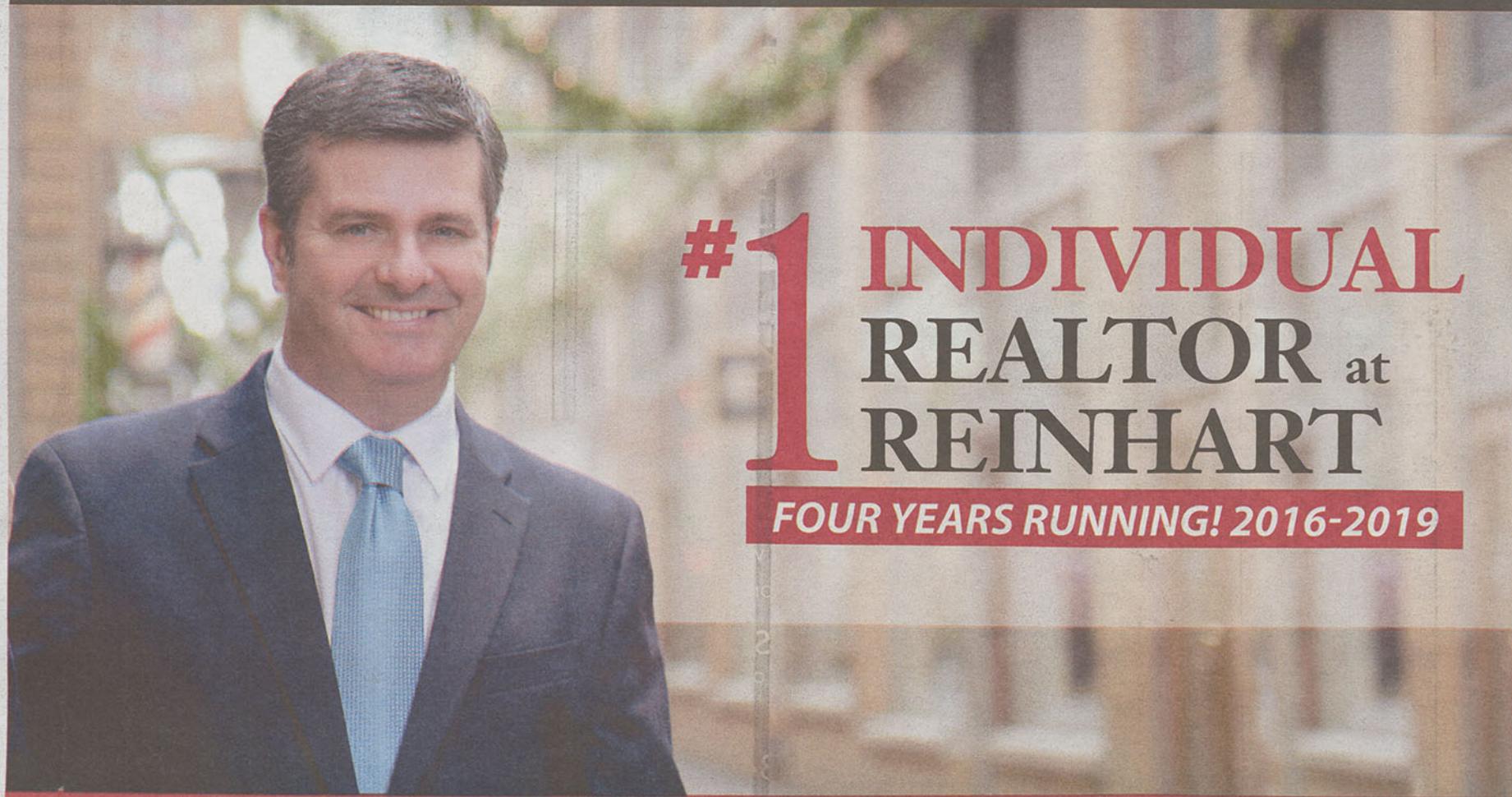


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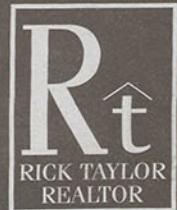


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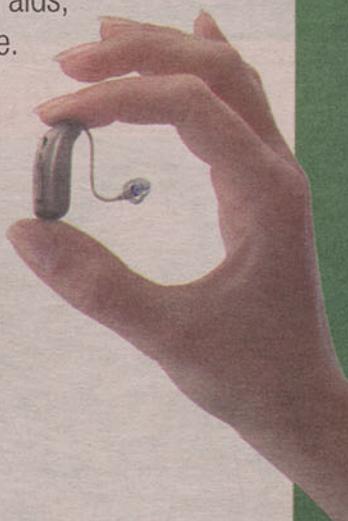
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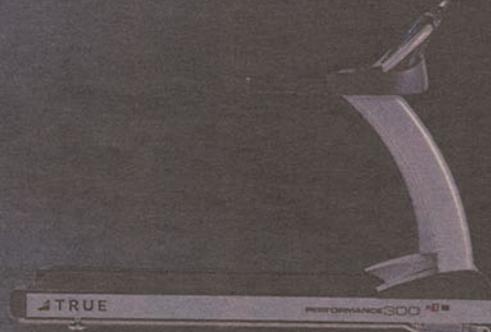
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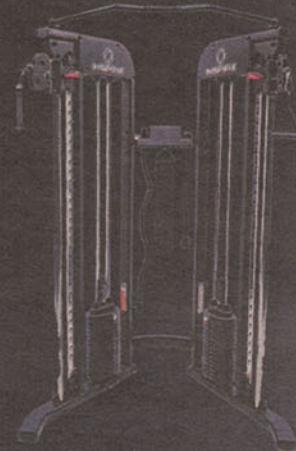
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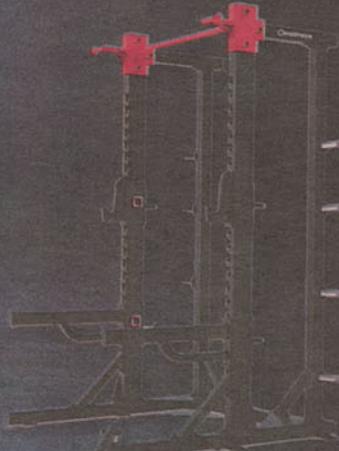
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Ann Arbor Observer

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vol. 45 • no. 6

Cover: The lobby of the State Theatre. Collage by Brenda Miller Slomovits.
(In February, the theater will be open intermittently for private rentals.)



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January 7, 2021

This week

As Covid cases climb ever higher, a Michigan Medicine screening for justice, freedom, fair elections while vandals take the Capitol building with confederate flags in hand, we take mit years to unpack. And with less than two weeks before the inauguration, Representative Tim Walberg calls for an emergency audit of election results in battleground states, without clarifying what that actually means.

Our democracy is being tested, and I choose to think that's a good thing. But let's not take anyone's word for it. How do our systems and safeguards work? What is an audit, really? How about we dig into this. Stay tuned.

In the News

Infectious disease cases still on a "high plateau" with a daily average of 1,000 cases, four hospitalizations, and two deaths per day, Wednesday morning. The positivity rate has dropped from a high of 9 percent last month to 7.5 percent. The state-wide positivity rate is now 7.5 percent.

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Introducing a2view, the Ann Arbor Observer's weekly news update. Every Thursday, we'll send you a round-up of top stories, events, interviews, short articles, profiles, and more.

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UpFront

Patrol Cam: Some local Kroger stores closed out the year with new additions beyond face masks and one-way aisles: both the Carpenter and Maple Rd. supermarkets installed trailer-based surveillance towers in their parking lots. Branded "Patrol Cam" and rising twenty feet in the air, the towers seem intended to intimidate as much as aid in solving crimes—along with multiple cameras, spotlights, and a loudspeaker, they call attention themselves with flashing blue lights that mimic those of a police cruiser.

A Kroger representative would only say that the towers are "added measures of safety surveillance for our stores, our associates, and our customers." Patrol Cam is one of many brands reselling devices manufactured by Utah-based LiveView Technologies, whose website promotes the "completely customizable" installations as both an investigatory tool and a deterrent.

Equipped with solar panels and batteries, the systems were initially marketed for monitoring construction sites. Retail surveillance took off in 2017 with an order from Walmart. Last year, some cities even used them to monitor absentee-ballot drop boxes.

According to LiveView's website, the systems can play prerecorded announcements and warnings that escalate to sirens and strobing lights. Security staff can view both standard and thermal-imaging footage in real time via a web-based platform, and optional two-way communication allows them to converse with people in the parking lot. They can review recorded footage and activate software to recognize vehicles and read license plates. But there's no need to invest in 24/7 monitoring: artificial intelligence software can be programmed to send alerts when it recognizes motion, shoplifting, or even loitering.

Similar towers have been appearing at Krogers around the country since at least

the fall of 2019. It's not clear why only two of the local stores have received this treatment—over the last six months, crime in the area of the Maple Rd. store has been comparable to that around the Arborland store, which has no tower—but now that the technology is there, the deployment of these types of installations seems certain to increase.

Virtual library: The Ann Arbor District Library closed even before the statewide shutdown last spring. "We knew we were going to have to close," says AADL director Josie Parker, "so we wanted to do it on our terms."

By June, they reopened—for carryout. "We had a backlog of tens of thousands of items to get off the floor and get checked in and get back on shelves," says Parker. "Once that happened, then we were able to give people the opportunity to request material again." Staff put books, DVDs, and CDs "in a paper grocery bag out on the vestibule shelves to be picked up."

Programming, already a huge part of the library's community role, expanded in the pandemic. "The staff decided to start filming and doing programming online," says Parker. "YouTube has become a huge part of what we're doing."

They miss the days when services were in-person. "We all liked to be in the building, and we'd love the public to be in here with us," says Parker. "It's very difficult to be in the building with masks, keeping your distance and no public interface. Honestly, it's depressing."

But they carry on. "We are working in teams, so people who are working at a branch don't work anywhere else in the system at all," Parker says. "And there are two teams at each branch that do not overlap," so if someone tests positive, "we do not have to close a building."

Parker says the library will reopen "by degrees" based on public health guid-

ance. But "we'll keep some of the services we've developed because they're so well received, like shelf service" for pickup and online children's programming and book discussions.

Parker wholeheartedly agrees with retiring Downtown Development Authority director Susan Pollay that once the pandemic is over, people will be eager to gather again in person. "When there's a vaccine, when there's enough control that we can have programming here, I don't think there'll be any hesitation at all," she says. "We all miss it very much."

Pinball rescue:

Closed by state order from mid-March until mid-September, and with limited hours and traffic since then, Pinball Pete's was on the ropes.

Rumors circulated that the classic South University arcade was closing. But an outpouring of pinball patronage saved the day.

On Christmas Day, owner Mike Reynolds launched a GoFundMe campaign, posting: "It is with heavy hearts that we announce a fundraiser for our long time family business Pinball Pete's. The whole world has fallen on hard times during this last year, small businesses especially, and we are no exception to that fact."

The response from devotees of the arcade and its sister store in East Lansing was immediate and resounding. As the comments filled up with childhood and college memories, \$60,000 was raised in the first four days. Reynolds told WXYZ television that "we saw someone who said they proposed to their wife next to the Tetris machine because it was their favorite game." By mid-January, contributions topped \$100,000, and the campaign's goal of \$125,000 seemed well within reach.

At press time, fewer than twenty-five of the campaign's more than 2,100 contributions were for \$500 or more, and the vast majority were between \$5

and \$50. High-dollar support presumably came from patrons who frequented the arcades when they were new (the East Lansing store, the first, opened in the 1970s), but Pinball Pete's has lately attracted a new generation of archivally minded young people. U-M student Kaleb Brown, writing in the Observer in 2018, called the underground South U location an "extraordinary Cave of Wonder" and "the arcade that time forgot."

Pete's is aiming to return to regular hours as soon as they could staff up (want to work in a pinball arcade?). The campaign continues, and for a contribution of \$75 or more you can be in style in a Pinball Pete's T-shirt bearing an image of the South U arcade's neon-pink elephants. For \$500 or more, you can have your name on the wall and hang out with the owners.

Road runner: Parag Bohyar is running the length of every street in Ann Arbor.

Bohyar, an ergonomist in the auto industry, began running regularly in 2016. Last June, he decided to shake up his routine by running streets in nearby neighborhoods. After a couple of months, he'd run most of them—and set a goal to traverse every street in the city.

Bohyar begins each day's run where the previous one ended, covering two to three miles on weekdays and fifteen to twenty miles on weekends. He uses his Garmin watch and citystrides.com to keep track.

If anyone else had done this before him, he wasn't able to find them.

But he was inspired by a story he read about U-M biologist Kevin Bohannon biking all 818 miles of city streets. He credits his wife Soumya and young daughter for cheerleading his effort and hopes that he will inspire others. He was aiming to complete his odyssey by the end of January—and then move on to running all of Ann Arbor's city parks and trails. ■



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InsideAnnArbor

Crime and Punishment

"The opportunity went away," says Ann Arbor police chief Mike Cox.

That's Cox's explanation for a startling drop in crime during the last ten months of 2020: from March through December, the five crime categories tracked on the Observer's Crime Map fell 39 percent from the same period the year before.

Thank the pandemic. Cox believes the number of burglaries, robberies, sexual assaults and vehicle thefts dropped from 523 to 327 because "there's very few things open." Burglaries fell from 229 to 174 because "everybody's home" and sexual assaults from 113 to 76 because "there's no college campuses in session. There's no bars." Neither factor applies to vehicle thefts, but they were also down slightly, from 133 to 107—though thieves have lately been making up for lost time (see Crime Map, p. 19).

One category on the map was up: the city didn't report a single homicide in the first ten months of 2019 but did have one last year. In March, two roommates fought over pandemic restrictions; one had a pry bar but the other had a handgun.

"That's stir-craziness," says Cox.

"There's no place to vent or to socialize. Alcohol sales had been through the roof," creating "bars at home with no last call." He thinks that's also why one category not on the map—aggravated assault—rose. The AAPD didn't track the pandemic specifically, but for the full year aggravated assaults were up 19 percent, from 155 to 184.

This isn't the first time a deadly public health emergency had a public safety upside. Though the AAPD doesn't have records that far back, other cities reported comparable reductions during the 1918 flu pandemic.

Sheriff Jerry Clayton concurs with Cox about the pandemic's impact. But he also credits "having more services and programs available, more proactive things" that are helping troubled individuals before their problems escalate into crime. "That may be impacting what's going on."

"That seems to be the trend as far as arrests are concerned," agrees Cox. "Actually, [in] a lot of cities, violent crime is up, and it's up significantly. So there's some weird trends going on right now."

For his officers, "it's been a long haul, and there is some fatigue," Cox



Crime rose in some cities last year, but the categories tracked in the Observer's Crime Map fell 39 percent from March through December. Cox credits pandemic restrictions.

says. "They're worried about their families. They're worried about the future. There's so much going on that it's hard to say if the morale is going to be very, very high. But our role, our job, is to make sure that they stay focused and understand that we're still here to serve the public."

Cox was hired to reinvigorate community policing, and he's still pushing it—"even though you can't really physically be in close contact with people."

Building rapport is harder with everyone wearing masks, he notes, because "you can't see people when they smile!"

When people aren't wearing masks in settings where they're required, the chief says, his officers are requesting compliance in a "respectful, polite way. It's not this heavy-duty enforcement. It's nothing like that—but they still do that because it helps to keep the community safe."

Clayton says his deputies "are holding strong [and] continue to go deliver the service every day." But he acknowledges that they feel the stress. "We're like everybody else—tired of Covid, tired of the restrictions that go along with it."

Clayton's counterpart in Wayne County, Benny Napoleon, died of Covid in December. But Washtenaw County has had only a couple of cases. "We had one of our sergeants get really sick—he got pneumonia on top of it," Clayton says. "We've been really, really fortunate. I say all of that while I am feverishly knocking on wood."

Cox reports a similar experience and hope, in almost the same words: "We've had a few people get sick, but knock on wood everyone is certainly recovered."

First responders are right behind healthcare providers in the vaccination line. Both Cox and Clayton got their first shots in January, and their officers were following as fast as supplies permitted. Aware that black Americans—including his own father—are more skeptical about the vaccine, Clayton shared a video of himself getting the shot to encourage everyone to get protected.

In January, new county prosecutor Eli Savit issued a flurry of press releases about new policies in his office, including an end to cash bail requests. "I'm looking forward to working with them," Cox says, "as long as we have some dialogue and that they understand the impact" of the changes on police work.

Clayton says he and Savit are in "direct alignment" on how "the criminal legal system should move." But, he adds, a policy is just "a piece of paper with words on it. It doesn't come to life until you actually have to execute."

"I've said this numerous times, and I've said to him: I don't have an issue with most of what you lay out," Clayton continues. "I just have questions about how you're going to execute it."

"I support it. I just support it in the most thoughtful strategic way that is inclusive of the entire system."

"We have different roles," says Cox. "My role here is really to protect the public. And when we see people offending and breaking the law, then we have to arrest them and bring them into the criminal justice system. And that ends our role."

Back to School

Ann Arbor Public Schools are planning to bring students back to the classroom in March.

The "in-school hybrid learning option" AAPS announced in mid-January will offer two days of in-person instruction per week, along with two days of online instruction and one of "asynchronous" virtual learning. The four-step plan calls for the youngest and highest-need kids to return first, followed weekly by older grade-schoolers, and hopefully culminating in the return of middle school and high school students after spring break.

Before the school year began, the district laid out a set of metrics that would have to be achieved before in-class instruction resumed. To even consider reopening, they called for a weekly average of no more than nine new Covid-19



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Inside Ann Arbor

cases per 100,000 residents, or about thirty-three in Washtenaw County.

At the time the new AAPS policy was announced, the county's weekly average was in the 500s. Yet just five days earlier, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services had declared a goal "to have all Michigan school districts offer an in-person learning option for students no later than March 1."

"The value of in-person learning for our kids is immeasurable, and we must do everything we can to help them get a great education safely," Governor Gretchen Whitmer said in a statement. "I strongly encourage districts to provide as much face-to-face learning as possible, and my administration will work closely with them to get it done."

Did the AAPS abandon its own metrics under pressure from the state? "Certainly, there are many factors that weigh into any move forward during this global pandemic," superintendent Jeanice Swift emails. But she notes that the district had previously "signaled" a move toward hybrid instruction. Given "concern about a possible post-holiday increase in COVID cases" [had] "wanted to monitor that through the early days of January." Though still extremely high, the number of new infections then was half of what it was in late November.

More importantly, Swift says, "the vaccine has arrived, and the antigen testing program is coming." The vaccines aren't yet approved for children, but they will protect both their vulnerable family members and their teachers.

The highly accurate antigen tests should allow any infections to be identified before they spread. In mid-January, Swift expected them to be available in the next six or so weeks. "It's done right at the school, [and] the results are pretty quickly available."

With vaccines and better tests in hand, "we're going to work during February at our school meetings and community meetings to have all of us, educators and parents and students, understand what school during Covid time will look like," Swift says. But since shared meals may be a prime source of spreading the virus, she knows there will be "a lot of differences on lunches." Instead of cafeteria lines, prepackaged meals will be delivered to classrooms "so that food is kept protected while it's being served."

Families can choose to keep their kids fully online if they wish. And because no more than half the student body will be in school on a given day, Swift figures they'll be able to achieve physical distancing in existing classrooms, without having to convert gyms and other spaces.

But the pandemic is still raging and anything like full vaccination months

away, so Swift doesn't know how many families will choose the new hybrid model. "We built it so that families have full flexibility," she says. "As we move toward mid-February, we'll be asking them, so that we can plan for lunches at school, et cetera, et cetera. But I think that parents are trying to see how things go."

Swift stresses that "we're doing this together as a community. Things change every day in this Covid time, so our commitment is to communicate."

"This is exciting news, and I'm very hopeful," emails Omkar Karthikeyan, a pediatrician who pulled his

kids out of the school last year and led

a movement with other physicians to get

them back to school this year. "This will

be such a great development for so many

children and families."

Direct Primary Care

"Oh my God, I'm so much happier!" says physician Jane Klaes.

A Plymouth native, Klaes graduated from MSU's College of Osteopathic Medicine in 2004. After four years with a physicians' group providing primary care for low-income patients in rural West Virginia, she came to Ann Arbor in 2011 to join Integrated Health Associates (IHA), the giant physician network affiliated with St. Joe's. But after eight years, she says, she tired of seeing twenty patients a day while "checking boxes in the electronic health records." She left IHA in 2019, and last August opened a one-woman office in her home west of town.

Until recently, solo practices seemed doomed, in part because only groups like IHA have the systems and specialists needed to navigate the insanely complex medical billing rules required for insurance reimbursement. But Klaes bypassed that entirely. She's practicing a new concept called "direct primary care" (DPC), which doesn't require her to send bills or accept insurance. Instead, her seventy patients pay flat fees of \$30 to \$90 a month, depending on their age.

For that, she says, "they have access to me when they need me" via text, email, phone, video, or in-person visits—"whatever works." For testing, she connects them to companies that provide "lab and imaging for a huge discount—up to 90 percent" for direct payment.

Amy Blondin, a patient of Klaes from IHA, was one of the first to sign up. "I didn't have insurance for several years," she says, "and was paying for everything out of pocket ... I didn't go as often because I couldn't afford all the fees and costs."

DPC physicians typically recommend that patients buy "major medical"



J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Klaes says she's stilling "filling out" her direct primary care practice, and is making only a fraction of what she did at IHA—"but luckily, that doesn't have to be my goal."

insurance that will kick in if they need expensive specialized care or hospitalization. Through her employer, Blondin now has that. And when she sees Klaes, she says, "I can relax [knowing] I'm not going to have to pay \$150 out of pocket if I come to see her about my sore knee."

Klaes says some of her patients have no insurance at all. Just having regular access to a physician, she says, is "a big step up for them."

Jeff O'Boyle, who opened a DPC practice on Packard in 2018, knows all about that. "During my medical school I was completely uninsured," he says. "Working in the wards of the biggest hospital systems in Chicago, I could not access the care I was providing ... my wife worked as a paralegal, and we made too much money to qualify for Medicaid but not enough money to afford any health insurance."

After a residency at Beaumont Hospital, O'Boyle says, "I worked briefly in a hospital-based clinic for about a year, and let me tell you, I was absolutely miserable ... It's all about the turnover, because in the insurance fee-for-service system, the more people you see, the more money, obviously, you'll make."

"You've got to see between twenty and twenty-five people a day, you get on average about eight minutes with each patient, and you know, there's just mountains of paperwork to satisfy the insurance companies. You end up working for the insurance companies! You don't work for the patients! I kid you not. I'm in my thirties and I told myself I was going to quit medicine altogether and do a different career if this was my life."

But then he heard about direct primary care from a colleague and "thought that was absolutely fascinating ... I put about four or five months of research into it,

opened my clinic, and have been going strong ever since."

He currently has 300 patients paying \$30-\$80 a month. For them, he says, DPC is "sort of like Netflix, but for medicine." Like Klaes, he's negotiated direct-payment discounts at independent labs for testing and imaging. He also buys medication wholesale—"the same place Walmart, Kroger, CVS buy them"—then "sell[s] those medications wholesale back to my patients."

O'Boyle has a medical assistant and plans to hire a second doctor as the practice grows—his goal is 600 patients. But he wants that second doctor "to buy into the fact that we're not just going to turn people out every ten-fifteen minutes," he says. "We want to sit down and listen to our patients and get to know them."

Patient Lisa Profera appreciates that O'Boyle goes "above and beyond" to be accommodating, like meeting her on a Saturday to give her a Covid test. A former IHA pediatrician who now helps people "look better and feel better" at her aesthetics and lifestyle practice ProjuvuMD, she also appreciates the money she's saving. Her husband is also self-employed, and they had been paying \$25,000 a year for health insurance. Now, she says, they're paying about \$5,000 a year for primary care plus a major medical plan for themselves and their two grown daughters.

"Yes, we're doing this because we want to make a living doing this," says O'Boyle. "But we're also doing this because we're good at what we do. ... In any business, the way you get more business is to connect with your customers. And DPC is on the forefront of that for health care in the foreseeable future."

Klaes says she's still "filling out" her practice, and is making only a fraction of what she did at IHA—but "luckily, that doesn't have to be my goal." And to her surprise, she says, she loves having her work "more seamlessly integrated with my life."

She thought that working at home might mean "blurring lines in a way that I wouldn't like. But it really feels very natural. I enjoy it much more than I thought."

International Students

"Since the pandemic began, life here in America has not been the same," a student from China says.

The Chinese are discriminated against," says the U-M PhD candidate, who asked not to be named. Former president Donald Trump



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Inside Ann Arbor



J. ADRIAN WYLIE

"I have heard people talk, blaming the Chinese for the coronavirus," says biochemistry PhD candidate Divyani Paul. Though she's from India, "I'm sensitive to that because my lab mate is Chinese." Like many international students, Paul put off a visit home for fear she wouldn't be allowed back into the U.S.

and others "speak of the 'Chinese virus.' I have been confined in my apartment with only my roommate for company, and we only go out to shop at the market. Everything seems out of my control here."

This student has been studying in Ann Arbor since 2018. "The University of Michigan's reputation is outstanding—much better than what I could find in China, which is why I chose to come here. I love Ann Arbor," she says. But while she hasn't experienced any discrimination here, "I have heard of many other states—California and New York, especially—where bad things have happened. I am afraid the same thing might happen to me. I don't feel safe anymore."

"There have been some racist situations, certainly with our Asian students, but not exclusively," concedes Louise Baldwin, senior associate director of the U-M International Center. "I'm not aware of any of the incidents being life-threatening. We immediately connect students with the necessary university resources whenever we're alerted to an issue ... We're available for any emergency, as is the Department of Public Safety."

U-M typically hosts about 6,500 international students each year, with more than 3,000 of them coming from China. The next largest contingents come from India, South Korea, Canada, and Taiwan. The Trump administration's restrictions on immigration were already making their lives more difficult when the pandemic took it to a whole new level.

Though 80 to 90 percent of U-M classes are virtual this year, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced that their visas required international students to attend at least some classes in person. After protests, the rule was limit-

ed to students enrolling for the first time this year—many of whom then opted to remain in their home countries.

"We expect more international students to study remotely this term," Baldwin emails. "Obviously U-M is encouraging remote study for undergraduates anyway, and there's also a great deal of concern among international students about the increasing prevalence of COVID cases here in the U.S."

The Chinese grad student is among those marooned here. Her father ordered her to return home in March, but—like approximately 90 percent of all international students in U.S. colleges, she elected to finish her semester. She'd planned to return to China last summer—she knew her high school

sweetheart planned to propose—but when the new rules came out, she canceled her trip home, afraid that if she left she wouldn't be allowed back into the U.S. to finish her degree.

Divyani Paul, a U-M PhD candidate in biochemistry from India, also put off a trip home last summer. "Since March, there's been a lot of talk that if we leave, we can't return," she explains. One international student she knows is trapped between two national policies: "His visa expired, and he must go back to his own country to renew it—but because of Covid, he can't go back," she says. "And he's in the middle of his doctoral defense."

Paul says she's "never encountered any racism" in her program, "but I have heard people talk, blaming the Chinese for the coronavirus. I'm sensitive to that because my lab mate is Chinese."

"We're doing our best to monitor changes and proposed changes in immigration legislation," Baldwin says.

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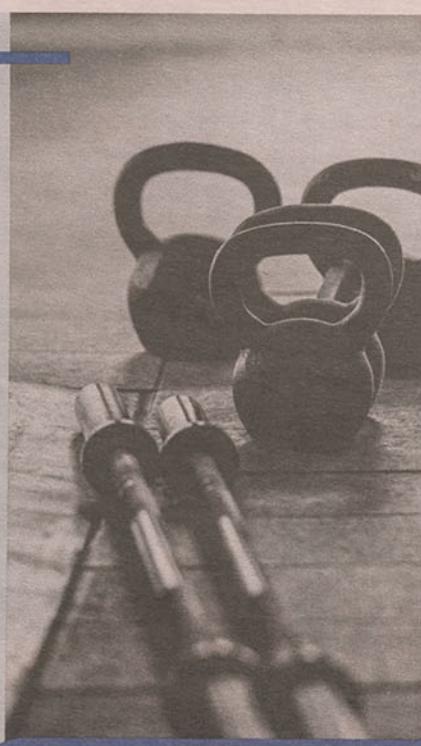
As a former Museum Friends Board member with a deep appreciation for the arts, Carolyn Lepard is another Ann Arbor institution. She takes pride in the opportunity to experience outstanding art right here in her own backyard. To

her, it's simply another indication that there is no town quite like Ann Arbor, with its mix of cultural elegance and down-to-earth residents.

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Inside Ann Arbor

"The U-M, along with professional associations, have been advocating for some proposals, writing letters, joining in lawsuits, and staying active in advocacy for international students."

Baldwin says it appears that the latest regulations will allow international students to "stay in the U.S. as long as they need to complete their program—but so far we've had no final regulation by the DHS."

Studyportals.com reports a 45 percent decline in prospective international students interested in studying in the U.S. They are looking instead at schools in Canada, the United Kingdom, Australia, and New Zealand. The site predicts that the "tone and policies toward international students" will change under the Biden administration but cautions that "damage to the once-welcoming image of the United States can't easily be erased."

"Although we don't know yet what the new administration will do, we certainly anticipate that the Biden-Harris administration's immigration policies will be more supportive of international students," Baldwin emails. "So I think that will make a difference in how welcome international students feel!"

In addition to an education, international students gain broad cross-cultural experience. "I had never heard of Thanksgiving before, but this year I baked a turkey for the first time," Paul says. "One of my roommates was from Egypt, so I learned about her country."

"My lab mate celebrates Chinese New Year. I am Hindu, but my roommate is Jewish—and she gave me a Christian Advent calendar this year!"

HouseN2Home

Volunteers are turning affordable apartments into comfortable homes.

"It's our princess home!" exclaimed three-year-old Rima Bullard after crossing the threshold of the sunny Ypsilanti apartment she and her mom, Leah Bullard, now share. They had been homeless after a brain aneurism cost Leah her job and her home. With the help of the Salvation Army's Staples Family Center and the Shelter Association's Alpha House, they eventually found an affordable unfurnished apartment.

That's where the four good fairies climbing the two flights of steps to furnish it that day came in: Ruth Ann Logue, Ginger Raymond, Liz Gadway, and Peggy Farrell, respectively president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer of HouseN2Home. The all-volunteer nonprofit delivered and arranged the furniture, linens, kitchenware, artwork, lamps, hygiene tote, laundry basket of household essentials, pail of cleaning supplies, and more. They even brought books, toys, and a play kitchen for Rima.

HouseN2Home originated in 2017, when Logue received a text from a single mother who had secured affordable but unfurnished housing. Logue pulled together a group of friends who dug into reserves from their own homes and purchased items from thrift stores to outfit the house. They found the experience so rewarding they began doing the same for other formerly homeless people. Case managers and social workers soon began

to contact the ad hoc group to inquire about possible home goods for their soon-to-be housed clients.

More than eighty volunteers now serve clients from Avalon Housing, the Ann Arbor Public Schools, Community Mental Health, Ozone House, Michigan Ability Partners, and SafeHouse. The clients must have a referral from a case manager or social worker to receive aid. An application for IRS nonprofit status is pending.

When volunteers' garages and basements overflowed with items to furnish the homes, Dave Raymond, Ginger's husband, brainstormed with the group about storage space on the St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor campus—he's St. Joe's director of planning and design. He helped get them a 10,000-square-foot space on the first



Ruth Ann Logue, Ginger Raymond, Liz Gadway, and Peggy Farrell (looking through the zero) celebrated furnishing their 100th home in October. An Avalon project in December pushed the total over 200.

floor of the Towsley Health Building that formerly housed memory care residents. The volunteers now wash and dry donated linens and organize items there. "We continue to be humbled by the generosity of St. Joe's to allow us to operate out of this space," emails Logue.

During the pandemic, Logue emails, "We are all trying to be as cautious as possible, and keep others safe. If someone has something great to drop off (we request photos for furniture) we can have someone meet them at storage." Their website, housen2home.org, lists the items they do and do not take. "Many of our donations are in great condition, but not all are perfect," Logue writes. "Thankfully we have a group of hardworking volunteers who are really into upcycling ... We are thrilled when something that might have been tossed becomes a piece of furniture we could all happily live with."

In early January, HN2H furnished the first units at Avalon's new Hickory Way Apartments on S. Maple Rd. During Covid, HN2H generally drops off furnishings and has clients move everything

inside, but Avalon's Marcia Luke-van Dijk, says that HN2H was able to safely furnish the brand-new, vacant apartments before clients move in. In addition to HN2H, "Kiwanis has enabled Avalon to purchase items on behalf of our Hickory Way residents in advance of their moves," Luke-van Dijk emails, "and has provided crucial warehousing space for the items that we purchase for these units (like couches)."

Ginger and Dave Raymond now have a friendship with Bullard. They organized a birthday party when Bullard turned thirty-three—the first big birthday party she's ever had. After being downsized from her job at a pharmacy during the pandemic, Bullard helped sort and organize items at St. Joe's and hopes to do more volunteering in the future.

Another client was referred by the VA Medical Center. His caseworker found him a pleasant apartment and new bed, and in December 2019 HN2H provided everything else, including a TV, a Christmas wreath on his door, and twinkle lights in a clear vase by a comfortable leather chair. Knowing his tastes from

a phone call with him and his caseworker, they supplied artwork and books. When he walked into his apartment, HN2H volunteers wept at his reaction.

"He called his caseworker while we were there, and repeatedly said, 'I want for nothing!' He was beyond happy," recalls Logue. "We had left him a chicken dinner, and when we called a few days later to see if there was anything else we could bring him, he asked, 'More of that chicken, maybe?'

"We brought him another chicken dinner and visited with him again."



calls & letters

Psych Emergency

To the Observer:

Your January article about the U-M Psych Emergency covered the patient's side of the situation well, but did you interview the nurses involved? These patient people often go home battered both mentally and, yes, physically, too. In this case (and others) there are details left dangling that would more accurately characterize an essential clinic.

As for finding ideal spots to place less than ideal patients, it's well-known that with the closing of the once-busy Ypsi State, Eloise, and others, the task must be incredible.

Sincerely,
Alice Bingner

Michigan becomes a state

"As a lover of history, I enjoyed 'The Signal of Liberty' in the January issue," Mary Lukens emailed. "However, there is an error in the first graph—Michigan became a State in January, 1837—not 1836."

question corner

Q. On some streets there are signs about a residential parking permit. I am a city resident; do I have to worry about them?

A. You do. In several neighborhoods near downtown and campus that face heavy parking pressure, the city has created residential parking programs that limit parking by people who don't live there. Neighborhood residents who wish to park without the restrictions can purchase an annual permit.

The cost of the permit goes toward the expenses the city incurs in monitoring the parking. Each program is distinct, so a permit is valid only in one neighborhood.

Note that if a vehicle appears to be abandoned, even if it sports a residential parking permit, it may be tagged. If it's not moved within forty-eight hours, it may be ticketed, towed and impounded.

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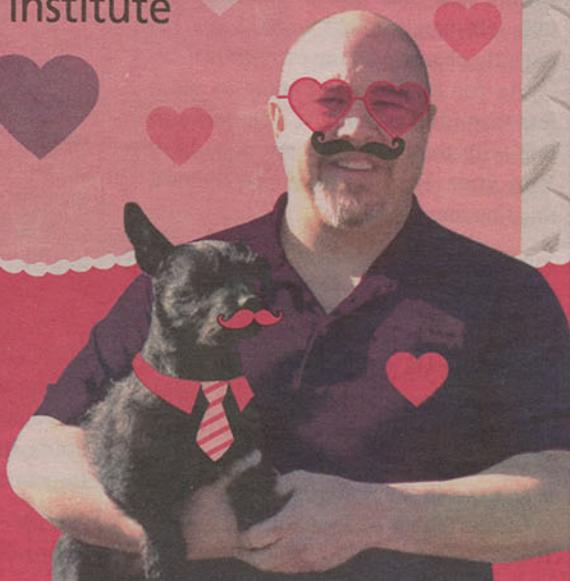
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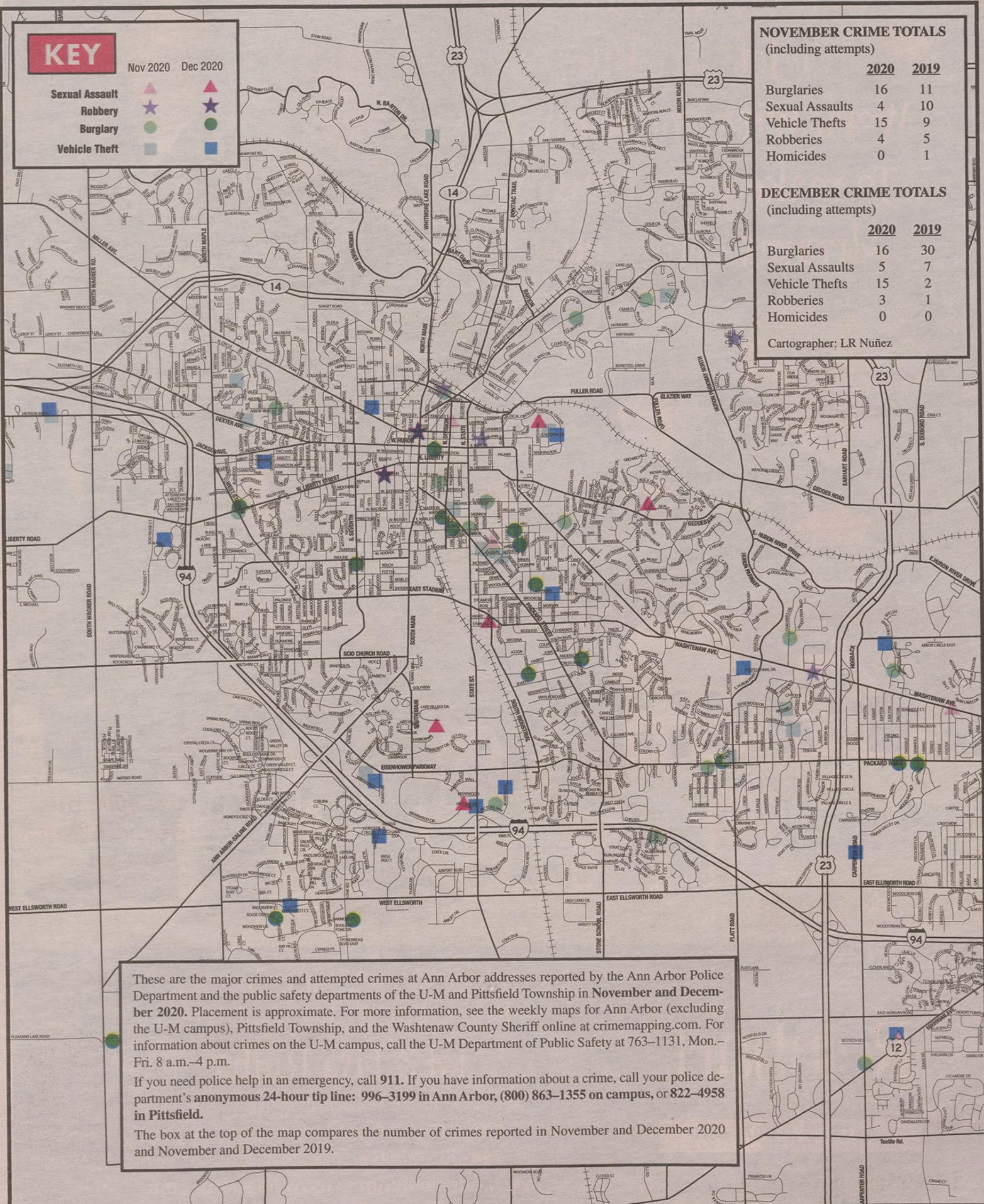
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Crime Map

KEY

- Nov 2020 Dec 2020
- Sexual Assault
 - Robbery
 - Burglary
 - Vehicle Theft



These are the major crimes and attempted crimes at Ann Arbor addresses reported by the Ann Arbor Police Department and the public safety departments of the U-M and Pittsfield Township in **November and December 2020**. Placement is approximate. For more information, see the weekly maps for Ann Arbor (excluding the U-M campus), Pittsfield Township, and the Washtenaw County Sheriff online at crimemapping.com. For information about crimes on the U-M campus, call the U-M Department of Public Safety at 763-1131, Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

If you need police help in an emergency, call 911. If you have information about a crime, call your police department's anonymous 24-hour tip line: 996-3199 in Ann Arbor, (800) 863-1355 on campus, or 822-4958 in Pittsfield.

The box at the top of the map compares the number of crimes reported in November and December 2020 and November and December 2019.

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Ann Arborites

Jatin Dua and Sanne Ravensbergen

Love in the time of the coronavirus

It's hard to keep up with Jatin Dua. Polite and upbeat, he first showed up in Ann Arbor in 2014 as an assistant professor of anthropology at the U-M. Before that, he spent his childhood in India and California, completed his undergraduate degree at Reed College in Oregon, studied law in Cairo, did research in London and East Africa, and got his PhD at Duke before coming to Ann Arbor. He teaches classes on piracy, history, anthropology, and anthropology of law.

In 2016 Dua took a residential fellowship at the University of Leiden in the Netherlands in order to have time to write a book on maritime piracy in Somalia and the Indian Ocean. Netherlands native Sanne Ravensbergen was finishing her dissertation there on criminal law in Indonesia under Dutch rule. A specialist in Dutch colonialism, she was looking at the colonial regime's multiethnic courts, which included Dutch presidents, Javanese judges, and Islamic and Chinese advisors.

Ravensbergen was also interested in the many different legal traditions governing maritime conflicts in countries bordering the Indian Ocean. So in 2016, she and a University of Leiden colleague organized a conference of scholars working on issues dealing with law in the Indian Ocean region. It drew attendees from the U.S., Europe, and Asia, and at some point, Ravensbergen's colleague suggested inviting their visiting American scholar to chair the panel in which Ravensbergen was a presenter.

Something came up, and Dua had to switch with another chairperson—but not before reading Ravensbergen's paper and letting her know that he had comments.

"That has never changed," Ravensbergen laughs. "He is still commenting!" Their professional interaction led to a personal one, and then to three years of back-and-forth visits between Leiden and Ann Arbor.

The book Dua was researching at Leiden, *Captured at Sea: Piracy and Protection in the Indian Ocean*, was published in 2019. Ravensbergen, meanwhile, continued her postdoctoral research at Leiden. Last March, she stopped in Ann Arbor for what was supposed to be another short



PHOTOS: J. ADRIAN WYLIE



visit before she attended an Asian studies conference in Boston.

A few days after Ravensbergen arrived, the conference was canceled due to the coronavirus pandemic. With borders closing and international flights halted, she was stuck here.

Dua and Ravensbergen had been trying to decide for years where to settle. Now, pinned down together, they figured the time and place had come. They bought a little bungalow with a cheerful front yard of flowers in the Ardmoor Gardens neighborhood—but, as Ravensbergen points out, not until after ruling out a Dutch Colonial first.

The home inspection in May came just one day after a backyard wedding presided over by a friend who had quickly managed to get ordained online. A Zoom reception followed just one day after that. It never would have occurred to them to hold an online reception if not for Covid, but now they

A few days after Ravensbergen arrived in March, her conference was canceled due to the coronavirus pandemic. With borders closing and international flights halted, she was stuck here.

happily remember all the tiny Zoom screens showing friends from around the world.

Their home is within walking and bicycling distance to shops, downtown, and Central Campus, where Dua taught social theory to first-year PhD students last fall. Overcoming earlier challenges of grad student strikes and restricted travel of international students (see Inside Ann Arbor, p. 11), the class finally settled into an online mode.

His goal became one of achieving cohesiveness among the students, and he was happy that they were able to work together online—often using Zoom breakout rooms. He believes that the experience of being physically distanced motivated them more than they might otherwise have been to reach out and connect with one another. He expects the winter semester to be more predictable and easier on everyone.

Despite the Detroit INS offices being closed for two months, Ravensbergen managed to get her work employment authorization document. It was a "big moment," she says. She had to quit her research position at the University of Leiden while waiting for it, but now has that position back and will finish her post-doc work from Ann Arbor while awaiting her green card.

Currently a visiting scholar in U-M's history department, Ravensbergen hopes to continue to work in the U.S. after getting her green card. And she and Dua are both happy that the universe decided to pin them down together.

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Cycling in Washtenaw County

Staying Alive



by Emyle Deshotel

DOn June 27th, 2020, I hopped on my bike to go to the store. I felt so free as I rode through the mostly empty streets of Ypsilanti Township that I decided to just ride around and soak in the beautiful summer day. But fear replaced freedom as soon as I turned onto E. Clark Rd.

That stretch of Clark has a 45-mph speed limit and no bike lane or sidewalk; there isn't even a shoulder. With a ditch to my right, I clung to the fog line and looked for an opportunity to turn off.

To my left, I saw a neighborhood street in the distance. I quickly glanced behind me for approaching vehicles and saw only a white SUV that was quickly closing the gap between us. After letting it pass, I made my turn.

What I hadn't seen was the pickup truck hidden behind the SUV. It rammed into me, pressing me into the gravel as it rolled over my body. My helmet protected my head, but the impact resulted in extreme road rash, a broken pinky finger, several severe lacerations, and multiple breaks in my left leg. I was unable to walk for several months.

Ido not drive and use my bike as my main mode of transportation. Since moving to Michigan from Louisiana two years ago, I have ridden as a commuter, a recreational cyclist, and a bicycle delivery person for the Jimmy John's on Ann St.

Most of my cycling has been on a single-speed track bike, but I quickly realized that was unsustainable on Ann Arbor's hills and bought a geared bicycle from a friend. I was making a delivery on it in 2019 when I followed a car turning left onto Huron from N. Seventh. It's a staggered intersection, with Seventh sidestepping eastward before it continues south. I hadn't seen that the driver was cutting in

front of an oncoming car. I was lucky to be uninjured that time, but my bicycle was destroyed.

I've had several close calls on N. Main. Delivering sandwiches to customers on Huronview Blvd. meant sharing a 45-mph road with cars rushing to or from the expressway, then crossing four lanes of high-speed traffic. There's no bike lane, and the only sidewalk ends near Lakeshore Dr.

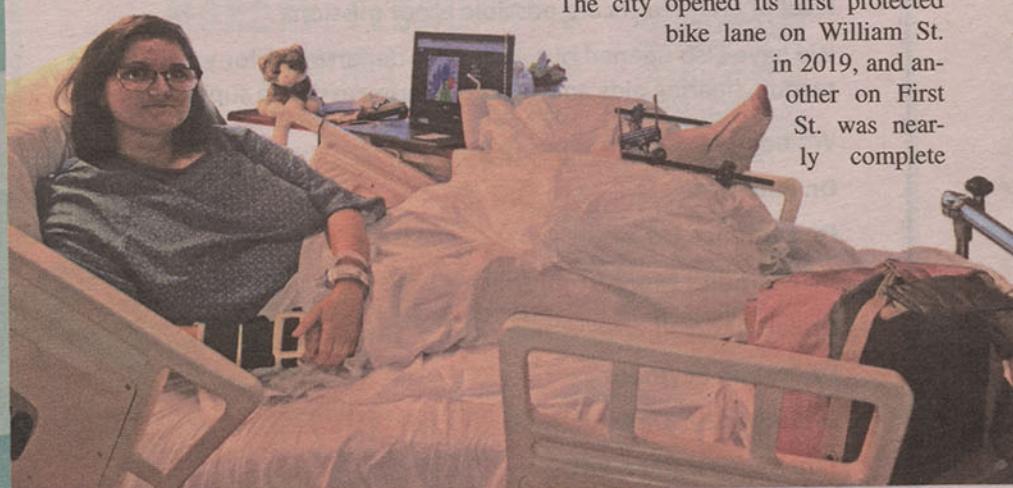
Sidewalks present their own challenges. Visibility tends to be more limited on sidewalks because obstructions block the view of driveways and cross streets. In some areas, like Ypsilanti's business district, cycling on the sidewalk is not allowed and in downtown Ann Arbor, heavy foot traffic puts both pedestrians and cyclists at risk.

In October, 2019, I bought "Marvelous Marvin," a GenZe electric bike from Human Electric Hybrids. Marvin has drastically increased my cargo-carrying ability, and extended how far I am able to travel. But because it tops out at 19 mph—a speed I can easily reach without electric assistance—the law makes no distinction between it and my track bike; in fact, the police report on my Clark Rd. crash didn't even mention that Marvin is electric.

With or without electric assistance, cyclists are constantly in situations where our safety is disproportionately compromised. Ann Arbor has been working to expand its bike lane network for decades, but it is still inadequate at critical points. Deliveries across the Broadway Bridge were always perilous, because the bike lane on N. Division ends just before you reach it. When bike lanes, like the ones on W. Liberty, are littered with gravel, branches, I must quickly consider which is more dangerous: the pothole that will surely result in a flat tire, or the car creeping up behind me. When, most often, the road does not have a bike lane, I cling to my handlebars as cars zip past at high speeds, hoping they'll give me the three feet of clearance state law requires.

Ann Arbor, which promotes itself as bicycle-friendly, has its own law increasing the clearance requirement to five feet.

The city opened its first protected bike lane on William St. in 2019, and another on First St. was nearly complete



Writer Emyle Deshotel (above) recuperating at St. Joe's after a July accident left her with multiple breaks in her left leg, and (upper left) at Common Cycle after friends in the bicycle community chipped in to rebuild her e-bike, "Marvelous Marvin."

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Staying Alive

when construction halted last fall. Temporary, experimental bike lanes were installed last year to test their effectiveness in high-stakes areas like the Broadway Bridge.

Plans call for the First St. lane to connect to the envisioned Treeline Trail, and from there to Washtenaw County's Border-to-Border Trail (B2B), along the Huron River. After years of halting progress, a public/private partnership has the B2B growing fast, with several new segments opened last year. It will eventually run continuously for seventy miles and connect to a statewide trail network. Closer to where I live, Ypsilanti has added a bike lane to W. Cross St., and Ypsi Township recently finalized a twenty-year, non-motorized transportation plan that will add bike lanes to many of the township's narrow, high-speed roads.

What I hadn't seen was the pickup truck hidden behind the SUV. It rammed into me, pressing me into the gravel as it rolled over my body.

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But even when bicycle infrastructure is implemented, it can be exclusionary. Longtime cycling advocate Ken Clark points out that the experimental bikeway on the Broadway Bridge and the protected lane on William are too narrow to accommodate bicycle trailers—an especially relevant concern after one-year-old Althea Kantola-Palmer was killed while in a bike trailer after her mother was struck by a driver on Lakeview Drive in Ypsilanti Township.

And while infrastructure plays a big role in cycling safety, Clark believes, that's not the worst problem. "It's motorists' attitude."

When Clark was a U-M student in 1988, a frustrated driver got out of his car at South University and Washtenaw, pushed Clark off his bike, then proceeded to kick him several times. Clark has had his fair share of run-ins with motorists since.

As recently as November 2019, he was knocked off his bike on the Broadway Bridge when a passing driver merged too early. At a traffic light downtown, a driver accelerating aggressively after the signal changed demolished his rear wheel. He narrowly avoided one crash when a motorist zoomed past him, then abruptly slammed on the brakes. Drivers have thrown things at him and even threatened to shoot him.

Clark says a major contributing factor to such attitudes is the way police enforce traffic laws. "They're not really interested

in enforcing laws that help cyclists," he says, "because they don't think they're important."

Clark has been wrongfully stopped by police on several occasions, and was once ticketed for riding in the center of the lane on Plymouth Rd. A judge dismissed the ticket, ruling that Clark had acted responsibly and did what was best for his own safety in an area with limited visibility. Clark has also been stopped by police for failing to ride on the sidewalk and for failing to ride in a snow-covered bike lane, neither of which is legally required.

Why is there such a lack of knowledge among police and drivers? Clark says it has to do with a lack of follow-up. "Michigan drivers self-educate to think that speeding is normal, cyclists don't belong on roads, the cyclists 'ask for it' so passing closely isn't a problem, and bike lanes are optional for motorists and mandatory for cyclists."

"They actually learn in drivers' ed that those are all wrong, but they forget those lessons in short order," he says. "There are no follow-up examinations in Michigan, and the police enforce the motorists' perspective."

When motorists aren't hostile and are following the laws to the best of their knowledge and ability, the worst can still happen.

After he hit me, the pickup's driver stopped immediately and ran back to see how I was. Weeks later, when I learned his name from the police report and called him, Michael Laster told me that he himself was once a frequent bicycle commuter.

As he came up behind me on Clark Rd., "I was watching you," Laster said. "I thought you were going to turn but then you let the SUV pass you so I assumed you were going to go straight. I thought it was safe to pass."

Laster had to guess because I did not signal my turn. While Michigan law requires cyclists to signal turns, I did not feel it was safe to do so on Clark, because it would have required me to stick my arm out into traffic. I didn't even think about stopping to look back, because there was no place to pull over. It would be easy to say that the accident wouldn't have happened if I had only signaled. I could just as easily say that I would have been able to see Laster's truck if there was a bike lane or a shoulder for me to ride in.

Even experienced bikers can have dangerous misconceptions about what's safe and what's legal. Laster said when he rode his bike, he rode against traffic. But while that is recommended for pedestrians, it is actually illegal for bicyclists. On roads like E. Clark with no shoulder, meeting a bike head-on can force cars to pull into the oncoming lane to avoid them, or even come to a full stop. Cycling with the flow of traffic allows drivers to slow down and wait for an opportunity to safely pass.

Laster also told me he "gave the cars their space," and said point-blank that he would have never placed himself in the situation I found myself in. This mentality may be safer individually, but it's dangerous collectively, because it distributes the weight of bike safety equally on the shoulders of cyclists and drivers. Yes, cyclists do have a responsibility to be safe on the road, but I would argue that ethically, drivers bear more responsibility, because their capacity to do damage is so much greater.

Unfortunately, current legal trends seem to point in the opposite direction. Even drivers who hit and kill cyclists while driving negligently are rarely charged with manslaughter. In January, a Florida woman pled no contest to careless driving and was sentenced to community service and a six-month license suspension. She had driven into a group of cyclists while speeding and distracted, killing two and injuring five.

Though Laster and I have some opposing views on bicycle safety, he is exactly the kind of driver I want on the road.

"Hitting you has made me a better driver," he said. "I'm never going to assume that I know what a cyclist is going to do ever again."

All road users are unpredictable and should be treated as such by everyone, regardless of their transportation method. While it is unfortunate that Laster learned this lesson through such a traumatizing incident, he is one more driver making roads safer for cyclists.

The need for more educated drivers is urgent because cyclists cannot afford to wait for infrastructure changes. In Ann Arbor, 471 cyclists have been injured in the past decade, and four have been killed. Throughout all of Washtenaw County, 736 cyclists were injured in accidents and twelve were killed.

More inclusive infrastructure will help, but without sweeping changes to how drivers interact with cyclists and how police approach and perceive cyclists, more people are sure to be hurt. Cyclists have to do their part, too, by wearing their helmets, using their lights at night, and educating each other as well as other road users about bicycle safety. More importantly, we can simply ride our bikes because the more we ride, the more awareness we raise.

Two surgeries and seven months after being hit, I am doing my part. I am back on my bike, thanks in large part to the generosity of my friends in the Ann Arbor cycling community who donated their time, money, and labor to fixing Marvelous Marvin.

I ride as often as I can manage. I ride because nothing feels more like freedom than two wheels on asphalt. But more importantly, I ride because every time I am on my bike, I give a voice to the cyclists who weren't as lucky.

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by Jan Schlain

One wintry January in 1986 four poets—Wendell Berry, Galway Kinnell, Seamus Heaney, and Donald Hall—each read their poetry for forty minutes at Rackham Auditorium. The tickets were \$5, and it was a sellout.

Former English department chair John Knott marvels at the memory of “people scalping tickets for a poetry reading on the steps of Rackham. And that was repeated after a while, with a change in personnel, but it was always first-rate poets—and it was very much open to the community.”

It wasn’t the first time scalpers descended on a poetry reading—in 1962, Robert Frost sold out Hill Auditorium. It was a nostalgic reunion for Frost, who had been the U-M’s poet in residence for several years in the 1920s. According to a 1987 Observer article by Peter Tiernan, Frost had tangled with administrators who wanted him to engage more actively with students but also wrote one of his most beloved poems, “Acquainted with the Night” and helped the editors of an undergraduate magazine launch an all-star series of poetry readings at Hill. (Carl Sandburg left him thoroughly unimpressed—in a letter, Frost called him “probably the most artificial and studied ruffian the world has had.”)

“There weren’t many—if any—premiere institutions that early on [that were] making a commitment to teach the writing of an art to their students,” says local poet Keith Taylor. “That put Michigan in a unique place.”

In a 2018 *Michigan Quarterly Review* article, “Poets at the University of Michigan, 1925 to 1980,” Laurence Goldstein took a charitable view of Frost’s testy relationship with the university. “It’s almost axiomatic,” he wrote, “that poets will center some of their adolescent feelings of resentment on the academic institutions that both empower their consciousness and challenge their visceral impulses.”

Goldstein described W.H. Auden, who took a one-year appointment as an associate professor at U-M in 1941–42, as “arguably the most important and often-imitated of all younger poets writing in English.” Yet then-undergrad Charles Miller recalled Auden modestly writing his name on the blackboard at the first session of English 135, “wearing a faded jersey sport shirt, blue jeans and torn tennis shoes” and telling his twenty-five students “no notetaking, please ... You won’t be quizzed on what I say but on what you THINK about the great books we shall read and discuss.” In a 1983 memoir, Auden also held “at home” sessions where he invited students over for “unrestrained talk, music and coffee.”

Auden and Miller had met when the poet gave a talk at the U-M the previous year. Miller recalled the poet insisting that

Lives of the Poets

Some famous ones have passed through Ann Arbor.
Others have planted deep roots.

as the only person he knew in Ann Arbor, he share the house the university had leased for Auden on Pontiac Tr.

Even in that closeted era Auden’s homosexuality was widely known, while Miller was straight. The visiting professor assured the undergrad that “I’ve been in love with the same man for several years, and I’m not interested in any other person.” That semester, Miller cooked for Auden, helped him buy a used Pontiac, taught him to drive it—and flinched in the passenger seat when the nearsighted poet floored it to test its top speed.

Hayden, the first African American poet laureate, “was a major figure,” says Taylor. But it was Hall, Goldstein wrote, who “was the most successful in forging a bond with the University of Michigan during his twenty-year tenure, 1957–1977, and spreading the word about ‘the pleasures of poetry,’ to cite the title of his popular textbook, throughout the country.”

“What Bo Schembechler was to Michigan football, Donald Hall was to Michigan poetry,” fellow poet Richard Tillinghast wrote in the Winter 2018 *Michigan Quarterly Review*. “Everything revolved around Don, with his magnificent full

“What Bo Schembechler was to Michigan football, Donald Hall was to Michigan poetry,” wrote fellow poet Richard Tillinghast.

When Goldstein arrived in Ann Arbor in 1970, there were three important poets on the faculty: Donald Hall, Robert Hayden, and Radcliffe Squires. Both Hayden and Hall would eventually become U.S. poet laureates (Hayden under its original title as Consultant in Poetry to the Library of Congress).

beard, his outgoing personality and genius for networking, his legendary parties, his friendships with poets. His “Kicking the Leaves” poem is a perfect Ann Arbor football Saturday poem.”

Even in Frost’s time, poets didn’t earn much from their poems—he’d been looking for a university position because he needed the money. But *The Pleasures of Poetry* and the still more popular *Writing Well*—a required text in my U-M freshman



J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Keith Taylor helped build the local poetry community at Shaman Drum Bookshop.

Gregerson first lived “right smack-dab in Burns Park,” and when her kids were little “it was just

English class—eventually enabled Hall to, in the words of a 1986 Observer article, “escape from tenure.” He and Jane Kenyon, his wife and former student, moved to his family’s farm in New Hampshire, where they devoted their remaining decades to writing.

Keith Taylor arrived a few years later. He had completed a master’s at Central Michigan University, and when his art-student girlfriend transferred to the U-M, Taylor tagged along. (Christine Gulus now co-owns design firm QLTD., which no doubt explains why her husband has such a beautiful website.)

Taylor initially took an “awful job” working in the basement of Ulrich’s bookstore, “processing massive boxes of books.” From there he moved to Borders Books, and in 1989 to Shaman Drum.

What he calls Karl Pohrt’s “little two-story bookstore on State St.” was a godsend for poets. “There would be readings four nights a week at Shaman Drum, sometimes more,” Taylor recalls. “And then it became a real center.”

“Karl was dedicated to it, and selling poetry is a little different than selling other kinds of books. You have to be a little more patient, and you foreground them a little more, and Karl was great for that. He was into the world and life of poetry.”

Taylor left the store in 2000 to run the English department’s sub-concentration in creative writing. “They really weren’t sure they wanted anybody who would [be eligible for] tenure to direct that because they thought it would be time-consuming, so they asked me,” he says. “So they created this position for me and kept it officially half-time, so I would not get overwhelmed by teaching freshman comp, which I did not want to do.” He kept the job until he retired a couple of years ago.

Shaman Drum closed in 2009 and Pohrt died in 2013. But the community of poets the store nurtured continues.

When Linda Gregerson joined the U-M English faculty in 1987, she recalls, a friend of a colleague at *The Atlantic* told her to look up someone she knew here. “You really must meet him,” the friend said. “He works at this great bookstore. He’s just a terrific person.”

“That person was Keith Taylor, who is Mr. Ann Arbor,” Gregerson says. She met Taylor and thought, ‘Yeah, I can be at home here. I can live here.’”

Ann Arbor is “a fantastic place to be a poet,” Gregerson says, because “there are just such great people here. It’s a generous community.”

Gregerson first lived “right smack-dab in Burns Park,” and when her kids were little “it was just

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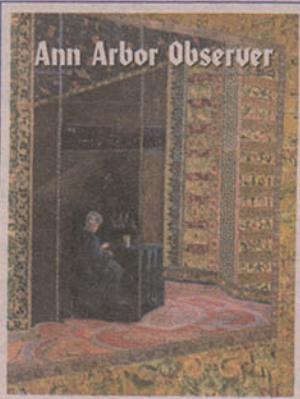
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Lives of the Poets



fantastic." Now she lives north of town, off Joy Rd. During this past "Covid summer, it meant I could ride on country roads on my bicycle every day." She wrote a poem about the deer she sees passing through her yard.

"I think place and its particularities can, in a really good way, intrude upon or sort of pierce obsessional thinking," Gregerson says. "I'm not sure the sense of weddedness to place is exclusive to poets, but certainly place surfaces differently in poetry than it does in prose."

But Gregerson isn't retreating from the world, and she doesn't think poetry is, either. She currently is wrapping up a six-year term as chancellor of the Academy of American Poets, whose website—poets.org—invites people to "sign up and get a poem every day" by email. "Tens and tens of thousands of people subscribe."

Her favorite program, though, is called "Dear Poet." Every year poets make videos of themselves reading one of their poems, and the videos are then made available "as a sort of package to middle school and high school teachers all across the United States. They're invited to use these in the classroom and to invite their students to choose one of the poets to whom they write a letter ... Dear Poet. And hundreds and hundreds and hundreds of these come in!"

"There is a schoolteacher in a tiny town called Butternut, Wisconsin, who uses this 'Dear Poet' opportunity every single year.

... The town has like 356 people living in it! It's a tiny town. And the picture you get when you Google it is of a highway with something like a Tasty Freeze on the side of it. And I got this wonderful letter from a girl that was filled with questions—'The poem you read sounds like you don't like big cities ... What is it about Chicago? — What's it like to be a poet? Have you ever been on television? Would you ever come to Butternut some day?'

"It's thrilling to think that actual living human beings out there, who aren't at universities and required to go to poetry readings, are experiencing these things and have thoughts about poems they encounter," Gregerson says. "It's completely thrilling."

A poem is language at its highest powers," emails Alice Fulton, who taught at Michigan from 1983 to 2002. "Poets aren't paid to publish; there's little money in it, and that opens aesthetic doors. There's no commercial pressure, no script, no temptation—unless poets are tempted by the prospect of a zillion followers on Twitter. Because there's little money changing hands, poets can write exactly the poem that pleases them. It's a great freedom and part of what allows poetry to be an art rather than a product."

Asked about poetry's popularity, Donald Hall once joked, "I don't think it will ever replace sex or baseball." Even selling out Hill Auditorium, as Frost did in 1962, is hard to imagine today. Is Fulton concerned that poetry's place in the culture has slipped?

"Perhaps the concept of 'poet' as a romantic figure has waned," she emails, "but since the unleashing of social media—Twitter, Instagram—I think there's been

something of a poetic renaissance." And new poets are bringing new subjects: "People of color and the LGBT community are publishing poems about experiences that previously were censored, repressed or written in a coded way," Fulton writes. "This infusion of new, important content has revitalized poetry—much as feminism did in the 1970s."

**U-M prof Linda
Gregerson cherishes
"Dear Poet" letters
from schoolkids in tiny
Butternut, Wisconsin.**



Gregerson points to Sumita Chakraborty, the English Department's Helen Zell Visiting Professor in Poetry. She has a doctorate in women's studies from Emory University, and Gregerson calls her "a force of nature."

"I think the University of Michigan has such a wonderful environment for writers and for visitors," Chakraborty says—"the number of reading series we have, and also independent bookstores ... I was certainly looking forward to being in a place with such a strong literary culture." And not just in Ann Arbor: "I felt incredibly welcomed and excited about the literary communities in Detroit and in Ypsilanti as well."

Like Gregerson, Chakraborty sees their art flourishing in new spaces. "Poetry is increasingly popular on social media," she points out. "Poetry is a very, very old art form. As Audre Lorde said, 'There are no new ideas. There are only new ways of making them felt.'"

In her teaching, Chakraborty usually picks and pairs individual poems. But during the pandemic, she instead is assigning full collections. "I think it has helped us have more of a communal feeling," she says, and her students are responding to it "very, very well."

Sarah Messer came to Michigan for grad school, not because Frost and Auden had been here, but because "Alice Fulton was teaching here then, and I really loved her work ... I wanted to work with Alice."

While she was here, she also "met my Buddhist teacher, who started White Lotus Farms." After getting her master's degree, she "hung around a little bit ... I painted houses and taught composition." But as a place to settle down, Ann Arbor "wasn't on my radar," she says.

She taught for a year in Massachusetts, and then "got kind of on a fellowship juncture ... The fine arts program in Provincetown gives you eight months to write on Cape Cod and a place to live and a stipend. Wisconsin is similar, but it's a little more money and you get to teach."

An agent saw an article she wrote for *Yankee Magazine* about the historic house she grew up in and told her, 'You should write a nonfiction book about this.' And so I wound up doing that and selling the book in advance. And then at the same time I got a National Endowment for the Arts prize for poetry." Her first book of poems came out in 2001 and her history/memoir *Red House* in 2004.

By then she was teaching in the MFA program at the University of North Carolina-Wilmington. She was publishing and winning awards, and she got tenure. With her life and career more stable, she also was able to "go deeper into the meditation practice, so then I started coming back to Ann Arbor more. I just started spending the summer here or winter vacation here." And eventually she realized, "I'd really love to move back to Michigan."



J. ADRIAN WYLIE



J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Sarah Messer was making cheese at White Lotus Farms when she got an unexpected invitation to teach at U-M.



She tried for a long time to get an academic job, but nothing opened up at U-M. She “was sort of a finalist” for a position at Wayne State, but that didn’t pan out, either. “Then I just decided, ‘Okay. I’m just going to give up. This just isn’t gonna work.’”

On her visits to White Lotus she’d been helping out at their creamery. Farm co-owner and creamery founder Kat Tsomo told her she was good at it (“because I made cheese as a kid,” Messer says). Tsomo said, “I wish we could hire you.”

“I was like ‘Yeah, that would be great,’” Messer replied. “I would work here.’ And [Tsomo] said, ‘Really?’ And I said, ‘Why not?’ I just want to move back to Michigan.”

A lot of her friends “thought I was really crazy,” Messer says, but in 2014 she quit her tenured position, sold her house and got rid of her stuff, packed up her dogs, and moved to Ann Arbor to be a farmhand.

“I had two books of poetry come out the year after that—one was a translation and one was my second book of poetry—so it’s not like I wasn’t writing,” she says. “It was just I wasn’t teaching. I really was spending a lot of time learning how to make cheese and milking goats ... I did that for a few years and wasn’t doing any kind of academic work at all.”

But she did keep running “One Pause,” a poetry program she’d cofounded at White Lotus. Ann Arbor poet Ken Mikolowski was a big fan. “He and I would go out to lunch occasionally and chat about poetry. One time we were chatting, and he said, ‘Well, you know, I’m going to retire from the RC’”—the U-M Residential College. “And I said, ‘Oh, that’s great.’ He said, ‘And I just put your name in because I want them to hire you.’”

“Ken, I work at White Lotus Farms,’ I told him. ‘I don’t need a job. And also, that’s not how things work, Ken. Like, really. I’m not going to get a job.’”

“Then the RC contacted me and they said, ‘Ken recommended you. Can you come in and talk to us?’ Even at that point I thought, ‘Why do they want to talk to me?’ I guess it does work this way.” She was hired part-time to take over Mikolowski’s poetry tutorials.

“So I just stopped taking a salary from the creamery and started teaching—I was making no money from the farm, and I was making no money teaching, but it was about the same amount of no money.” Then the part-time RC job became full-time, so now she just volunteers part-time at the farm.

“Ann Arbor has been really great to me,” Messer says. “My job at the farm for the past couple years has been helping to birth the baby goats and feed the baby goats and oh, what a rough job! My Facebook and Instagram feed is just all pictures of baby goats and my dogs.”

“I think that there are more students than ever that are interested in poetry, and I have to say it might be because of Instagram. I just know that more and more students are interested in poetry.”

Canadian poet Rupi Kaur has more than four million followers on Instagram. Her website may not be as elegant as Taylor’s, but it’s much better monetized. “The academic poets are like ‘Yeeech,’” Messer says. “But she’s like so popular! And she’s taught so many students poetry!”

“I had a student who was having a really hard time emotionally, and somebody gave her a Rupi Kaur book, and it really pulled her out of her depression. And it’s like, ‘Okay, that works.’”

That fits with something John Knott told me when I asked why we need poetry. ‘Because [poets] say things better than anyone else does and can open up new perspectives for us,’ he replied. ‘And at a time of crisis, like this, they can often add insights, and sometimes startling ones, that we learn from.’”

WINTER 2021 POLICY TALKS

[VIRTUAL]



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COACH JOHN BEILEIN



REBECCA CARROLL



DR. TRESSIE MCMILLAN COTTOM



REP. LAUREN UNDERWOOD



FEB 18 LISA D. COOK on diversity and innovation

MAR 17 DR. TRESSIE MCMILLAN COTTOM on inequality and higher education

FEB 23 COACH JOHN BEILEIN on the team in leadership

MAR 22 REP. LAUREN UNDERWOOD on health policy and the ACA

FEB 25 REDISTRICTING IN MICHIGAN AND THE ROLE OF COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST

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Land of a thousand flavors

zingerman's experts on your device: virtual classes

Times researchers have discovered a new way to switch up your time indoors this winter: education and entertainment live on your device, hosted by local experts in a variety of topics from Zingerman's. Recent participant Joanne shared, "Zingerman's virtual classes are very instructive. I loved learning new skills in my very own kitchen. I was so happy I registered for more!" Another partaker, Rick, says, "I love the insight and structure provided in each and every workshop. It was great to still feel a sense of community and engagement in this virtual class." Check out these options and find the one that's right for you:

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The historic Dexter event venue has launched a brand new series of virtual cooking classes and workshops featuring Chef Kieron's favorite English recipes, as well as local partner experts in floral design, wine pairing, and more.

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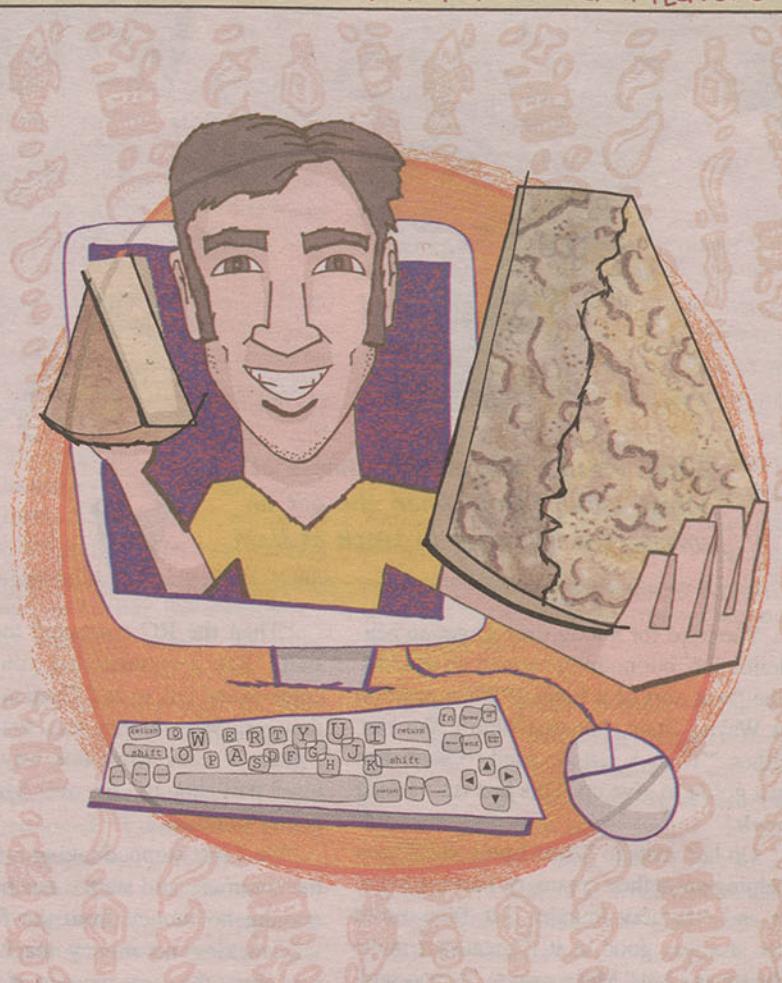
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bakewithzing.com

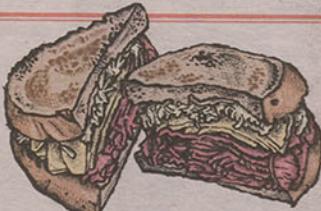
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Food & Wine called it "The best Reuben in America." Zingerman's Delicatessen Reubens aren't just a local favorite here in Tree Town—they're known around the country to food industry leaders and celebrities. Oprah herself declared, "Zingerman's sandwiches are an 11 on a scale of 1 to 5." Their original Reuben, created in 1982, has endured as the top selling sandwich for nearly 39 years. Today's version has evolved to stack up even more elevated ingredients than the original: house-made corned beef and Russian dressing, aged Swiss cheese, local sauerkraut from The Brinery, and Rye bread made with freshly-milled grain at Zingerman's Bakehouse. Their Reuben roster doesn't stop with corned beef (#2 on the menu), we've learned. It has something for everyone—including pastrami (#48), turkey (#18), tempeh (#236), or cheese (#36); with sauerkraut or coleslaw.

To view the Deli's Ann Arbor delivery map and order your very own famous Reuben, perhaps with a new or old pickle, salt and pepper potato chips, and a Magic brownie, visit zingermansdeli.com.

To share the same sandwich experience with friends and family across the U.S., you can ship a Reuben Kit from zingermans.com.

attention food lovers!



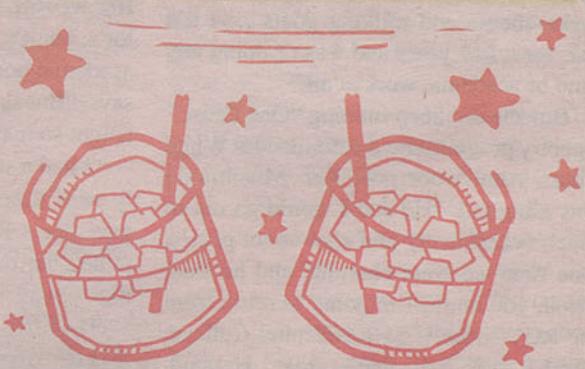
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sip, sip, hooray: roadhouse cocktails to-go

Missing your local mixologist? Times lifestyle editor recommends you stock your home bar with pre-mixed craft cocktails from Zingerman's Roadhouse. Bartenders there have put together to-go care packages of their favorite batch cocktails to complete your hygge lifestyle this winter. Choose from offerings such as the bourbon-based Buster Brown, house Margarita, sparkling Mimosa, or Winter Sangria. Skip breaking out your shaker at home and support local mix masters in the process.

Order cocktails, as well as brunch, lunch, or dinner to-go at zingermansroadhouse.com. Drive-thru and curbside pickup available.

TableTalk

Winter Dining

Downtown restaurants roll out "chalets."

With winter here and a ban on indoor dining still in effect at press time, a handful of intrepid restaurateurs and their adventurous patrons have found inspired, if partial, solutions in outdoor "chalets," "igloos," and propane-heated tents.

For some restaurants, "they are everything," emails Kristin Jonna, co-owner of Vinology. As a fine-dining restaurant, she says, carryout alone doesn't generate enough sales to make it worth staying open. "However, combined with the chalets, we are finding a way to be viable under the outdoor-only mandate."

Before the weather edged towards snow, Vinology had a propane-heated tent, and "that worked okay," says manager Terry Coombe. But after the second ban on indoor dining took effect in December, outdoor guests were chilly, and "no amount of propane heat would accommodate them," he says. Vinology patrons "expect a certain level of service," Coombe explains, and in the tents, "it's a lot harder to [achieve that]." Vinology decided to invest in the chalets, electrically heated, plexiglass enclosures with sliding doors surrounding single tables. They

are more expensive and seat fewer people than the tents, but they offer a novel experience that is relatively warm. When outdoor temperatures hover around freezing, "You're looking at fifty-five degrees inside the chalets," says Coombe. They keep six propane heaters going as well to warm up outdoor tables not in chalets, at a cost of about \$250 a week.

The chalets have drawbacks. Because they steam up, servers can't see inside them, and "as soon as the server opens the door, the temperature drops," says Coombe. Other issues are cost, assembly, and storage. Jonna emails that the chalets are "PAINSTAKING" to put together and cannot easily be broken down. At \$500 a pop, the restaurant wants to hold onto them over the summer in case Covid-19 is still a concern in the fall, but storing them will be tricky. Neighboring lunch spot First Bite bought its own chalets, and the two restaurants have shared them on a limited basis.

Despite some challenges, Coombe says, the chalets have been a resounding success. "Most restaurants decided to invest in the propane heaters, and they are struggling, but our chalets are all full. They have been so popular that we had to implement a deposit." Coombe says the idea for the deposit came from another Main Street

By adding chalet seating to takeout, Jonna says, "we are finding a way to be viable under the outdoor-only mandate."

Vinology co-owner Kristin Jonna drafted her builder husband, Dave Eifrid, to assemble the restaurant's plexiglass enclosures.

restaurant, Black Pearl, an early investor in the chalets. By law, outdoor tables can't be reserved. With a deposit, patrons are in effect making an advanced purchase which allows the restaurant to hold their table.

If patrons miss their reservation, they lose their deposit. Patrons are happy to comply, and the chalets are fully booked days in advance.

Sales at Vinology were still down 50 percent in 2020.

Black Pearl is doing slightly better. "I feel good," says Jacob Doyal, a bar manager and new investor in the restaurant. "We're trying to roll with the punches. We're about 35 percent down and not more because of the outdoor space."

Other Main Street area eateries with similar outdoor enclosures include Shalimar, TAQ Taqueria (which calls them

"greenhouses"), and Bløm Meadoworks (which terms them "huts"). The West End Grill has large tents and the Chop House has transparent domed "igloos." At Stadium and Packard, Black Diesel coffee has miniature geodesic domes, while the new Drip House across from Michigan Stadium opted for a multi-table tent.

Sava's on State St. also opted for a tent. With business down between 80 and 90 percent, the restaurant didn't feel it had the funds to invest in chalets, says manager Hannah Knowlton. "Both ends are open, and we have direct air flow," says Knowlton. "On some of the more mild days it's been a major component of the business."

Because Sava's is takeout only, "it would be hard to estimate exactly how much the patio is affecting our numbers," she says. "Guests come in and order, and we bring everything out to them on the patio. It can be snowing sideways, and there are still people who want to sit outside."

—Trilby MacDonald



Sean Morin and Douglas Botsford met as cooks at the Gandy Dancer in 2009. Now they're doing seafood from a truck at York on Packard.

Seafood on Wheels

A New Orleans vacation was the inspiration for Juicy Oistre.

Douglas Botsford and Sean Morin have worked their way around Ann Arbor's restaurant kitchens. They met as cooks at the Gandy Dancer in 2009, and have individually spent time at the Barton Hills Country Club, Argie-ro's, Conor O'Neill's, Blue Tractor, and Knight's Downtown.

After Botsford left town to cook in Denver, the pair met up in 2018 for a New Orleans vacation. After a night out, they wound up as the first customers at Felix's Oyster Bar, a famous French Quarter haunt.

Watching the counter man open their bivalves, the pair were inspired to open an oyster place of their own in Ann Arbor, where both have roots. Morin went to Community High and EMU, while Botsford went to Huron and attended WCC. Botsford's grandfather, Don, founded Ann Arbor Gymkhana, the area's first private fitness center.

"I felt like this was something people in the area were missing out on," Douglas Botsford says.

They spent two years writing a business plan, passing it back and forth via text and email. Then, last year, they spent \$18,000 to buy and outfit a used ice cream truck, and Juicy Oistre was born.

Their first event was in Morin's driveway in Ypsilanti, but the truck now has a regular monthly spot at York on Packard Rd., selling as many as 1,000 oysters during a three-hour time slot.

Generally, the menu features raw and grilled oysters and other dishes pegged to availability and weather conditions. In January, that included oyster paté and oyster soup. In February, Juicy Oistre is set to team up with York for a Valentine's Day event. Future offerings may include a crawfish boil, clam bake, and lobster dishes. Check the Events tab on York's website for details.

The oysters come from growers on the west coast. Although Pacific oysters tend to be smaller than east-coast varieties, the men feel that the flavor is sweeter and more complex, and the oysters have a deeper shell to hold ingredients.

Neither have quit their day jobs yet, but both are excited that their truck is rolling. "In a restaurant, you have your task, you have your thing," says Botsford. "When it comes to a food truck, you're the restaurant."

Adds Morin, "My energy gets more excited because I'm not feeding someone else's idea book. I was doing this for somebody else. Now I get to do it for myself."

—Micheline Maynard



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Marketplace Changes

by Micheline Maynard

Ferne Boutique Joins Fourth Ave.'s Fashion District

Laura Horwath's first customer was herself.

As she turned thirty, Northville native Laura Horwath was frustrated when she shopped for professional-looking attire for her marketing career. The outfits she could find were aimed at older women, and she felt she had aged out of teen clothes.

"I'm not seventeen any more, I'm not in college any more, but I'm not finding anything for work," she recalls thinking. Horwath also preferred shopping in small locally owned shops rather than trudging through department stores or national chains.

In 2016, Horwath, then living in Bay City, founded **Ferne Boutique**, aimed at offering affordable clothing for women ages twenty-five to forty-five, both in person and on the Web.

"I had no background in the fashion buying business, but I knew how to talk to people and sell," Horwath says.

The response was gratifying, and she opened a second Ferne in Detroit's New Center area in 2018, near the corner of Woodward Avenue and West Grand Boulevard. It also took off quickly.

"It quickly became obvious that other people were looking for the same type of thing," Horwath says. "If I wasn't finding it, other people weren't finding it. Do I really want to drive two hours to Somerset [Collection] to find the same stuff as everybody else?"

In December, she opened her third Ferne location, at 217 S. Fourth Ave., in a space that was home to the Local Bike Shop before becoming a Democratic Party office during last year's election campaign.

"The demographic that shops at Ferne really fits in well in Ann Arbor," says Hor-

wath, who also hopes to draw customers from Plymouth, Dexter, and Chelsea.

Ferne is the latest shop to join what's becoming a lively retail section of downtown Ann Arbor, with neighbors that include Today Clothing, Dear Golden, and Le Bon Macaron.

"The community itself is awesome. The other business owners have been so nice," Horwath says.

Horwath began looking for an Ann Arbor location last summer. "When I started looking, I said, 'I can't open a store now, but if I don't open now, it's not going to be here. And if I waited until next summer, it definitely wouldn't be here.'

"I knew that if I found something that made sense, and all the components checked out, and it

fit my business plan, I would have to do it."

She wasn't concerned that most University of Michigan students are not in town, since they are a little younger than her ideal market.

Horwath says she's already noticed a second demographic of women age fifty-five and up who are shopping at Ferne, which carries a range of items from Spanx and sunglasses to boots, jeans, and business-casual clothes.

"My mom is sixty-eight, and she said, 'I'm not shopping at old lady stores. I like what you have,'" Horwath says.

In a nod to her newest location, Horwath is featuring top-quality crew-neck sweatshirts embroidered with "Ann Arbor," that come in light blue with yellow

stitching and in tan with rainbow letters. The shirts cost \$70.

Horwath's focus is on finding unusual items that customers can group to create several looks.

"If you buy something, you want to know that you can wear it multiple times to multiple events," she says. "If you spend \$200 on a leather jacket, are you really going to wear it? For \$200, you can get an entire outfit that you can wear to church, to brunch, or to run errands."

Ferne Boutique, 217 S. Fourth Ave., (989) 778-1222. Tues.-Sat. noon-6 p.m., Sun. noon-5 p.m. Closed Mon. ferneboutique.com.

From Ribs to Tacos

Tmaz takes Aamani's west-side spot.

Tmaz Taqueria Dexter is in Ann Arbor, not Dexter. But it is on Dexter Ave., hidden away behind the Wolverine Party Shoppe just west of Maple Rd.

It's the second Tmaz location for Cesar Hervert and his wife, Ana Trinidad. They opened quietly in 2011 in a space on Packard so tiny it only had two tables. The following year, they took the larger space next door for a produce and grocery store, and in 2015 they pushed through the walls to create one big space for their growing taqueria and panaderia (restaurant and bakery).

Hervert explained at the time that Tmaz was named in honor of Ana's hometown of Temascalcingo, Mexico, better known to locals as Tmaz. Pre-pandemic, the restaurant bustled with customers enjoying tacos, enchiladas, and hearty beef stew, while the bakery did a brisk business making *tres leches* cakes for birthdays and desserts such as flan.

Last fall, Hervert heard from a friend that **Aamani's Smokehouse & Pizzeria** on Dexter would not be reopening. Aaron Wiess, a much-traveled chef, had



Cesar Hervert and his wife, Ana Trinidad, opened Tmaz quietly in 2011 in a space on Packard so tiny it only had two tables. Now they have two locations.

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Marketplace Changes

won some devoted followers at the Observer office by adding daily specials like jambalaya to predecessor Little Porky's pizza-and-ribs foundation, but apparently he couldn't weather the pandemic shutdown.

Hervert spent two months renovating the place and opened right after the new year. The lineup on Dexter echoes, but does not completely replicate, its Packard parent.

"The deal is for me to have two locations and cover it the best that I can," Hervert says. Each morning, he helps Ana and their adult children open on Packard, then drives across town to run the new place through closing time.

He's not deterred by restrictions forced by Covid-19. "I like it because it's very small, and it's very, very convenient for us" to operate, he says.

The Dexter menu offers about 80 percent of what he sells on Packard. West-siders will not get to sample his flatbread *pupusas* or the popular soup he offers at the original location.

But the new location came with a fryer. That gives him the chance to sell dishes with fried tortillas, such as flautas (rolled tortillas that are filled and fried) and chilaquiles (fried tortillas simmered in salsa and topped with ingredients like eggs, cheese, and beans).

Hervert plans to buy equipment to make his tortillas in-house and also expects to get a cooler, so that he can offer cold drinks and desserts.

He says he'll be updating the décor to make it look more Mexican and hopes that he can someday obtain a liquor license covering both restaurants.

In mid-January, he hadn't yet listed the menu for Tmaz Taqueria Dexter on his website but was offering delivery from Grubhub.

There are about a dozen seats inside that will be available once restrictions are removed, and Hervert says there's a patio on the property that he hopes to use for outdoor dining. "I definitely want to have it," he says.

Tmaz Taqueria Dexter, 2529 Dexter Ave., (734) 780-7225. Mon.-Sat., 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Closed Sun. houseofthemexicanfood.com

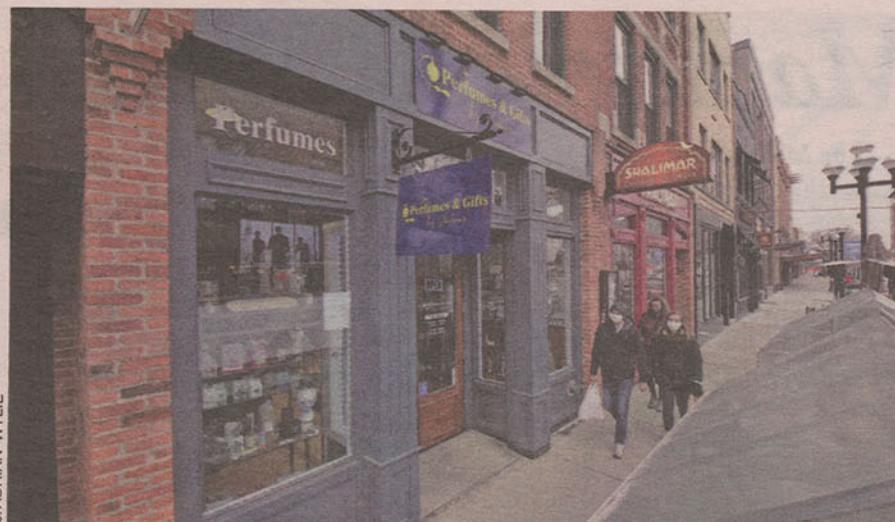
Shalimar Branches Out

With gifts and fine perfumes

Pedestrians or motorists traveling down Main St. can be forgiven if they think they are seeing double.

Yes, there are now two Shalimars, next door to each other. One is the longtime Indian restaurant, and the other is a new gift shop.

In early December, Shalimar owner Samir Patel opened *Perfumes & Gifts by Shalimar* at 305 S. Main., in a spot that



Shalimar restaurant owner Samir Patel says he was inspired to expand into retail by the foot traffic that Ann Arbor's restaurants attracted last year, when Main St. was filled with outdoor dining tables.

was previously occupied by Oasis, a bubble tea and smoothie shop, and the here-today-gone-tomorrow coffee shop called BeanBerry Cafe.

Although the two businesses are linked by the Shalimar name, Patel says he is operating them separately. He was inspired to open the shop by the foot traffic that Ann Arbor's restaurants attracted last year, when Main St. was filled with outdoor dining tables, including those at his Indian restaurant.

"When restaurants are busy on Friday and Saturday nights, people are wondering what to do," Patel says. "There really isn't a candle, perfume, or this kind of store in Ann Arbor anymore."

But don't expect a South Asian lineup. The shop focuses on high-end perfumes from European labels including Armani, Creed, Yves Saint Laurent, and Versace, some of which can cost \$200 and up.

Another focus is a wide variety of candles, in many shapes, sizes, and scents. Patel says one best seller is a three-wick "cereal bowl" candle at \$30 that's topped with colorful confetti to mimic Froot Loops.

Other inexpensive gifts start at \$5, and the store features home fragrance items like diffusers and incense, plus an assortment of other items like sunglasses, bath bombs, and whimsical decorations.

Items can be ordered online and picked up at curbside, and the store also will ship nationally.

Patel says he is eager to feature items made by local artists in Ann Arbor, Detroit, and across Michigan. He encourages jewelry and craft makers to contact him through the gift shop's website and set up an appointment.

"The plan is to get unique items into the store," Patel says. He is not looking to replicate things already sold elsewhere downtown, like those at his neighbor, Ten Thousand Villages, or at Ann Arbor's other gift shops. "I don't want to compete with anybody."

He was pleased with the gift store's initial business. "At Christmastime, we did really great sales. People really appreciated it," he says.

Although things slowed down in January, Patel says he's optimistic for Valentine's Day business and expects more customers as pandemic restrictions loosen

Rock Bar & Grill), and she and Huang own Sapporo Hibachi Steakhouse & Sushi in Livonia, and Wasabi Japanese Steakhouse & Sushi Lounge in Novi.

Always a seafood lover, Wu was inspired to offer spicy seafood when she tasted it in New Orleans, where boiled seafood is ubiquitous. "Asian people love seafood, and I know Americans love seafood. The Red Lobster is always busy down the street," Wu says, laughing.

JJ's menu is divided between cooked seafood such as crab, shrimp, and mussels, featuring combinations of Cajun and Asian spices, as well as grilled hibachi dishes, such as shrimp, chicken, and vegetables. Wu has a chef in charge of each type of cuisine.

They'll be able to seat forty people once pandemic restrictions are lifted, and Wu hopes there might be outdoor seating once weather warms up.

She doesn't feel trepidation about opening in a pandemic. "My ambition is always to start businesses up," Wu says. "It doesn't matter what era, or what condition the economy is in. People are always looking for places to go to eat."

JJ Crab House, 2871 Carpenter, (734) 222-1111, Mon.-Thurs. 11 a.m.-9:30 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 11 a.m.-10 p.m., Sun. noon-10 p.m. jjcrabhouse.com

From Bowls to Seafood

Jenny Wu's new venture.

Jenny Wu and her husband Jin Huang opened JJ Crab House in October. They previously owned Naked Burrito at the same location, hoping to attract local students with their take on the bowl fad, but closed it last spring when the pandemic began and their chef left.

If Wu's name is familiar, it's because she's been around awhile. In 1993, when still a U-M student, she joined her mother, Bing-hua Tsou, to open Lucky Kitchen in the Courtyard Shops. Tsou, a piano teacher, later turned the restaurant over to her. "She didn't like the stress," Wu says.

A second Lucky Kitchen, on East University, was replaced by one of the South U area's now-ubiquitous student high-rises. She also ran Passport on S. State for a few years in the early 2010s (much modified, that onetime Chi-Chi's is now Black

Briefly Noted

Cosa Sabrosa's colorful food truck has become a familiar sight outside the Zal Gaz Grotto on W. Stadium Blvd., serving tacos and other Mexican fare. Until the weather turned cold last year, diners would pick up their orders and eat at colorful umbrella tables on the Grotto's lawn or park themselves on the grass out front.

Now, Cosa Sabrosa has taken up digs inside the Grotto. In January, it began serving its Mexican-inspired menu five days a week, at lunch and dinner, from a location in the Masonic lodge's front entrance. Cosa Sabrosa's neon sign burns brightly in the Grotto's window, while the truck is parked outside the door.

Indoor seating was not allowed in January, but customers can place carryout orders online, by phone, or in person. The restaurant encourages people to order in advance, because many dishes sell out.

The truck hit the road in 2016. Chef and owner Jeff Gardner currently offers eight different fillings for tacos, burritos, and nachos, including beef, pork, fish, chorizo sausage, sweet potato, and cauliflower (vegans can order the vegetarian options without crema). Three types of salsa are available.

Side dishes include rice, Mexican corn, two types of beans, guacamole, chips and salsa, and pickled vegetables. Drinks are limeade, horchata, and Mexican Coke.



JJ Crab House is named for owners Jenny Wu and Jin Huang. Sarai Bates (above) manages both the new place and Wu's original restaurant, Lucky Kitchen

Prices start at \$3.50 for a single taco. A three-taco combo, with rice and beans, costs \$12, while burritos and nachos also cost \$12.

On its Facebook page, Cosa Sabrosa was offering a Thursday night special through Feb. 4: four crispy birria (stewed beef) tacos for \$13.

Cosa Sabrosa, inside Zal Gaz Grotto, 2070 W. Stadium Blvd., (734) 330-6028. Tues.-Sat. lunch 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m., dinner 5-8 p.m. Closed Sun. & Mon. cosa-sabrosa.square.site

• • •

Moe's Neighborhood Bar & Grill at 711 North University opened in early January for delivery only. It features a menu of bar food that includes burgers, sloppy joes, fried chicken, fish, and fries.

Plant-based versions of many items are available, and the restaurant plans to offer two monthly shake flavors (January's were Salted Caramel Pretzel and Cookies 'N Crème).

Moe's is owned by Zach Beeson, the founder of Bright Lights Creative Marketing, launched in 2015, as well as local social network A2 Social. His partner in the venture is John DeAngelis. The pair also own the Galley Restaurant in St. Ignace, which is temporarily closed until spring.

Eventually, the restaurant expects to serve customers in the old Moe's Sporting Goods store across from the Diag. But for now, cooking is done in the kitchen at the Circ Bar.

Moe's Neighborhood Bar & Grill, 711 North University, (734) 636-0696. Wed.-Sat. noon-7 p.m. Closed Sun.-Tues. order.moesann Arbor.com

• • •

In the first months of the pandemic, **Blue LLama Jazz Club** at 314 S. Main turned its kitchen into a pop-up incubator for different types of cuisine.

They included Jibarito, with Latin-inspired dishes; Of Rice & Men, which became a separate restaurant next door to Blue LLama with an Asian-themed menu (Marketplace Changes, September 2020); and most recently, Blue LLama transformed the jazz club's menu into A Trip to Paris, which offered twists on traditional French dishes.

But Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's mid-November pandemic pause forced restaurants to close indoor dining. Left to rely on carryout and delivery, Blue LLama decided put its entire food-service operation on hold until warm weather arrives. At the end of December, it announced on Facebook that it was suspending operations at the jazz club and Of Rice & Men, and the delivery food it offered through Jibarito.

"We're not closing permanently. We mean too much to each other to just say good-bye," said the Facebook post, which was signed by proprietor Don Hicks, chef Louis Goral, artistic director Dave Sharp, and culinary arts staff Adrian Estrada, Josh Wetsstein, and Ava Yau.

According to the post, they plan to reopen Blue LLama and Of Rice when each can operate at full capacity, "safely and properly." That is likely to be spring or summer, the post said, "but like our musi-

cians, we're playing this tune by ear. We'll let you know as soon as we know." And it promised that Of Rice & Men "is already working on spectacular new tastes that showcase our respect for and love of the diversity that is Asian cuisine. You've only sampled our amuse bouche. Wait until you taste the next course."

The club's performance side, however, continues online. A ticketed livestream performance series was scheduled to premiere in late January. Patrons can purchase tickets for the seventy-five-minute concert alone or a VIP package that includes meet-and-greet opportunities conducted via Zoom.

The concert on Jan. 30 features the Diego Rivera Quintet, headed by Ann Arbor native and Michigan State professor Diego Rivera, whose parents named him after the famous Mexican muralist. Tickets can be purchased at mandolin.com.

Closings

It's been a tumultuous year for the former Art Van Furniture location on Eisenhower. Last March, Art Van closed the store after the parent company filed for bankruptcy.

The store reopened last fall as a branch of **Loves Furniture**, which acquired twenty-seven former Art Van stores during the bankruptcy proceedings.

Loves, named for Dallas investor Jeff Love, hired many of the Art Van veterans who felt ignored when Art Van was sold to a hedge fund in 2017 (Marketplace Changes, December 2020). Now, Loves has left the stage, too.

The Ann Arbor store closed the same month we wrote about it, and in January the entire chain filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection. It expects to keep only thirteen stores, just one of them in Michigan.

Loves blamed industry-wide supply disruptions that resulted from the pandemic. In its bankruptcy filing, Loves said that there were additional logistics issues that resulted in the wrong furniture being sent to the wrong stores. Hundreds of orders were delayed because Loves could not locate the furniture customers had ordered, the court papers said.

Shortly before the bankruptcy filing, Loves was sued by a vendor, alleging that it had yet to be paid for \$2 million in furniture that Loves ordered.

Although liquidation events are taking place at four Detroit-area Loves stores, the Ann Arbor store is scheduled to get a new life in early March, when it becomes a **Value City Furniture** store.

That move was announced in December by Value City, which acquired six former Art Van stores across Michigan.

Value City, founded in 1948, offers customers "designer furniture without the designer prices." It says it plans to add sixty-five jobs at locations in Ann Arbor and a store in Westland and says it will give preference to previous Art Van and Loves employees. ■

Got a retail or restaurant change?
Email marketplace@aaobserver.com



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February Events

SENIORS

36 Events this month

Ella Bourland

FILMS

39 Viewings this month

Ella Bourland

TIPS FOR READING

This month's calendar includes both online and in-person events. Due to the **Covid-19 pandemic**, all listed in-person events are contingent upon the venue's operational status. Published events reflect plans as of press day (20 January), while the most up-to-date calendar is available at AnnArborObserver.com.

Our online calendar is not only an expanded version of the print calendar but is also continually updated and searchable. It includes listings submitted by the public, of classes, religious services, political activities, and other types of events not suitable for print.

★ Denotes a free event

Tickets for events highlighted in yellow are available at a2tix.com.

All phone numbers have area code (734), unless otherwise noted.

Recurrent events are listed only on the date of their 1st occurrence, except for perform-

ing arts, which are always listed on each day they occur. Thus, the first week of each month will always contain information about events throughout the month.

We want to know about your event!

Please send us your press release by the **10th day of the preceding month**.

- Email: events@aaobserver.com
- Phone: 769-3175

What gets in?

We give priority to Ann Arbor entertainment and other leisure events, but we also list activities elsewhere in Washtenaw County deemed of interest to our readers.

Please submit materials as early as possible; items submitted after the 11th might not be included in the print calendar but will be added to our online calendar at AnnArborObserver.com. Due to space limitations, many listings, especially for weekday daytime and recurrent events, appear only in the online calendar.

1 MONDAY

★ "Gender Politics and the Populist Moment: Will the East Save the West?": U-M Copernicus Center for Polish Studies. Talk by University of Warsaw American Studies Center professor Agnieszka Graff. Noon, for URL preregister at myumi.ch/mnrgy. Free. copernicus@umich.edu.

★ "A Historical Ecology of Slavery in the Danish West Indies: An Archaeology of Redress": U-M Anthropology Department. Talk by Vanderbilt University anthropology postdoc Justin Dunnivant. 1:30-3:30 p.m., online at bit.ly/historicalecology. Free.

Olive Oil Tasting: Fustini's Oils & Vinegars. Every Mon. & Tues. Fustini's staffers sample and discuss various olive oils. 5:30 p.m., for URL call 213-1110. \$60, includes samples available for curbside pickup or delivery.

★ "Sphinx Virtuosi: This Is America": University Musical Society Digital Presentation. Jan. 29-Feb. 8. This ensemble of 18 top Black and Latinx classical soloists, many alumni of the internationally renowned Sphinx Competition, performs a program that's both archival and newly recorded, featuring contemporary African American composer Michael Abels' *Delights and Dances* and Sphinx Virtuosi composer-in-residence Jessie Montgomery's *Source Code*, which centers on a melody based on a syntax derived from black spirituals. Available from 7 p.m. January 29 through Feb. 8, online at bit.ly/sphinxvirtuosi. Free. 764-2538.

★ "Ann Arbor Group Runs": Running Fit. Every Mon. & Sat. Runners of all abilities invited to join a run of 3-14 miles along varying routes from different Running Fit locations. Also, a speed-training session (every Tues. 6 p.m., 5700 Jackson Rd.). Rain, snow, or shine. 6 p.m. (Mon.), 123 E. Liberty and 8 a.m.

EVENTS REVIEW

37 Not Your Grandma's Tempest

Community High's theater troupe hits the small screen

Jenn McKee

KIDS CALENDAR

40 Events for kids 12 and under

Ella Bourland

GALLERIES

41 Exhibits this month

Ella Bourland

(Sat.), 5700 Jackson Rd. Free. 769-5016 (Mon.), 929-9022 (Sat.).

"**OLLI @ Home**": U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. Feb. 1 & 15. Two talks in a series of 10 on a wide array of activities to do from home. Feb. 1: Paesano's chef Wade Grysban demonstrates via Zoom how to make an Italian meal TBA, and Paesano's owner and wine enthusiast Michael Roddy discusses wine pairings. Participants encouraged to follow along with the recipe or buy the Paesano's meal for curbside pickup. Feb. 15: University Flower Shop owner Dani Vignos shows how to make succulent gardens, and U-M Matthaei Botanical

Gardens horticulturist Mike Palmer discusses succulent at-home propagation and care. 3-4:30 p.m., for URL email OLLI.info@umich.org. \$35 per talk and \$115 for 10-lecture series (members, \$10 per talk and \$90 for series); \$25 annual membership fee. 998-9351.

The Moth StorySLAM: Michigan Radio. Virtual storytelling competition sponsored by The Moth, the NYC-based nonprofit that also produces a weekly public radio show. Storytellers are selected at random to tell a 5-minute story—this month's theme is "Love Hurts"—and judged by an audience poll at the end of the show. 7:30 p.m., for URL prereg-

seniors

U-M Turner Senior Wellness Program.

Free virtual activities. For URL, email [info.tswp@umich.edu](mailto:tswp@umich.edu) or call 998-9353. **Tai Chi.** Beginners welcome. Mon., Wed., & Fri., noon-12:30 p.m. **"Walking Off the Pounds."** Guided steps to walk in place. Mon., Wed., & Fri., 12:30-1 p.m. **"Wise Guys."** All men invited to discuss issues of aging. Every Thurs., 1-2 p.m. **"Writing, Reflections, and Conversations."** Feb. 1, 1-3 p.m. **"Una Tertulia."** Socializing group for Spanish speakers. Feb. 2 & 16, 3-4 p.m. **Monthly Craft Group.** Bring a project to work on and socialize. Feb. 18, 3-4:30 p.m. **"Depression and Anxiety: What's Happening Physically and How to Get Help."** Talk by Michigan Medicine psychiatrists Nick Morcos and Carrie Tamarelli. Feb. 10, 10-11:30 a.m. **"Technology to Promote Independence."** Talk by Center for Independent Living assistive technology director. Feb. 24, 10-11:30 a.m.

"Be Our Valentine": Ann Arbor Senior Center. Drive through the Senior Center's parking lot and pick up coffee, doughnuts, valentines, and other goodies. Festive attire encouraged. Masks required. Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 794-6250.

Feb. 2 & 16 (1-2 p.m.): **"Live Trivia via Zoom": Ann Arbor Senior Center.** All invited to form teams of 4 or 5 persons to compete in a 2-round trivia contest. Solo competitors are matched up together. Questions are geared towards ages 55 & up, but all ages welcome. Prizes (curbside pick up only). Online at bit.ly/aasctrivia (passcode, 194912). Free. BRuthven@a2gov.org.

Feb. 10 (10-11:30 a.m.): **"Winter Birding for Seniors": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission.** WCPARC naturalists lead a hike for all age 55 & up to look for black-capped chickadees, juncos, finches, and other birds. Masks required. Independence Lake County Park, 3200 Jennings. Free. Capacity limited; preregister at ParksOnline.eWashtenaw.org (search Activity #821007).

Feb. 10 (noon-1 p.m.): **"Lunch Break Club": Ann Arbor Senior Center.** All invited to discuss a weekly topic TBA, or just sit back and listen. Online at bit.ly/aasclunch (passcode, 463533). Free. BRuthven@a2gov.org.

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theater



COURTESY OF CET

Not Your Grandma's Tempest

Community High's theater troupe hits the small screen.

Community Ensemble Theatre—a student troupe that normally performs in Community High School's blackbox Craft Theater—has been taking "the show must go on" to a whole new level. You pretty much have to these days, since the pandemic has rendered live theater unsafe for artists and audience members alike.

CET director Quinn Strassel was determined to find a way to present Shakespeare's *The Tempest*, which features newly retired CHS English teacher Judith DeWoskin in the lead role and was slated to open the very weekend that Ann Arbor Public Schools shut down last March.

He wasn't thrilled at the idea of doing Shakespeare via Zoom, but "I painted myself into a corner ... I promised the students that we would still do the show, one way or another. ... When you make a promise like that, you feel like you have to see it through."

So Strassel thought hard about how to turn Zoom's limitations into opportunities.

"Yes, everyone would be framed in these boxes on a screen, but maybe we could use them in creative ways," he recalls thinking. He started the process by taking photos of the set in the school's deserted theater. "It's eerie," he says. "The theater looks like we're just on a pizza break. There are ladders, props set up on tables, and the costumes and the set are all there, ready to go."

The break has lasted so long that the actors who were seniors last year have graduated. Strassel invited them back to the virtual production, but had to recast some roles. Then the CET team safely delivered costumes and large rolls of green paper for each performer's backdrop.

In addition, CET got something it's never needed before: a video editing team. As they assembled the Zoom production

one act at a time over the course of a few months, their skills developed. The finished product includes enhanced echoes, haunting music, and glowing visual effects, particularly when the play's magical characters are on-screen.

The Tempest focuses on an exiled, aging Milanese aristocrat (Prospero in the original, Prospera as played by DeWoskin). She and her daughter Miranda (Ana Morgan) live on an enchanted island with the sprite Ariel (Lily Sickman-Garner) and an enslaved, wretched witch's son, Caliban (Even Drago). When a boat carrying those responsible for Prospera's exile comes near, she brews up a storm that brings them all to her shore, so that she may confront them at last.

In addition to some atmospheric touches, like the sounds of the play's titular squall, the Zoom production also painstakingly "blocks" the video layout so that characters always face whoever is speaking or being addressed. Though awkward at times—actors occasionally stare up at characters situated over their heads—the convention nonetheless makes the production feel more fluid. Plus, it's fun to see where Strassel and his team found opportunities to play with frame-thwarting illusions, like a cloak being passed from Prospera's space into Miranda's.

So this isn't your grandmother's *Tempest*—it can't be, given this pandemic moment. But it's inspiring to see what Strassel and fifty students have managed to cook up in the midst of this crisis. Zoom productions will never be able to replicate the excitement of live theater, of course; but like many of the inevitable compromises of this strange era, there's bittersweet joy in being reminded, in virtual ways, of the things we most miss and long to make part of our lives again.

The final act of "The Tempest" premieres February 12 at 7:30 p.m. on a2cet.org, where all five acts can be found through the end of academic school year.

—Jenn McKee

ister at TheMoth.org. Tickets \$10 per household. 764-5118.

2 TUESDAY

★**Sphinx Virtuosi:** University Musical Society Digital Presentation. See 1 Monday. All day.

★**Noon Lecture Series:** U-M Lieberthal-Rogel Center for Chinese Studies. Every Tues. Talks by U-M and visiting scholars. Feb. 2: University of St. Thomas (Minnesota) history professor Jaymin Kim on "Becoming 'Inner Kirghiz': Qianlong Emperor's Policy Toward Five Tribes in Qing Xinjiang." Feb. 9: MSU sociology and global urban studies professor Xuefei Ren on "Governing the Urban in China and India." Feb. 16: U-M information professor Silvia Lindtner on "Prototype Nation: China and the Contested Promise of Innovation." Feb. 23: U-M women's studies and history professor Yi-Li Wu on "Myth-Busting the History of Chi-

nese Medicine: Going Beyond the 'Function, Not Structure' Stereotype." Noon, for URL see events.umich.edu/group/2625. Free. chinese.studies@umich.edu.

★**"Getting Creative with": Ann Arbor District Library.** Every Tues. AADL staffers share and discuss creative projects they've been working on based on weekly themes TBA. 3 p.m., AADL.tv. Free. 327-4200.

★**"Knit Happens": Ann Arbor Stitch 'n' Bitch.** Every Tues. All knitters invited to work on their projects and swap tips with others. 6-8 p.m., for URL pre-register at MeetUp.com/Ann-Arbor-StitchNBitch. \$2 monthly dues. 945-3035.

★**Death Cafe: Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth.** Interfaith Center Minister Annie Kopko leads a frank conversation about death. 6:30-8 p.m., online at InterfaithSpirit.org. Free, donations appreciated. 327-0270.

★**"Introduction to Insight Meditation": Ann Arbor Public Schools Community Rec. & Ed. Staff** from the local Still Mountain Buddhist Meditation Center offer tips for adult beginners. 7-8:30 p.m., for URL preregister at aaRecEdOnline.com. Free. 994-2300.

★**Voices in Harmony.** Every Tues. All female singers invited to join the weekly virtual rehearsals of this local 40-member a cappella barbershop harmony chorus. 7-9:30 p.m., for URL email Info@VoicesIn-HarmonyChorus.org. Free to visitors (\$26 monthly dues for those who join). 765-3611.

★**"Biodynamic Agriculture as a Strengthening of the Will and a Direct Experience of Spiritual Science": Great Lakes Branch of the Anthroposophical Society in America.** Talk by Community Farm of Ann Arbor (Chelsea) farm manager Dan Gannon. 7:30-9 p.m., for URL email dwight.ebaugh@gmail.com. Free.

★**Ann Arbor Camera Club.** Feb. 2 & 16. Club members show their digital images (Feb. 2) and digitized prints (Feb. 16) on various topics, including this month's assignment, "Flowing Water." Also, presentations by a dozen selected members TBA on "How Experts Would Process This Raw File" (Feb. 2) and member Jim Bretz on "Old Car City USA" (Feb. 16), the world's largest known classic car junkyard. 7:30 p.m., for URL email a2camClub@gmail.com. Free. 327-4781, AnnArborCameraClub.org.

3 WEDNESDAY

★**Sphinx Virtuosi:** University Musical Society Digital Presentation. See 1 Monday. All day.

★**U-M Ice Hockey vs. Penn State.** Feb. 3 & 4. This month's schedule also includes home games vs. Michigan State (Feb. 9) and Wisconsin (Feb. 13 & 14). Livestream only from Yost Ice Arena. Time TBA, online at mGOblue.com/sports/mens-ice-hockey/schedule. Free. 764-0247.

★**"Medical Ethics": U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Urgent and Critical Lecture Series.** Feb. 3, 10, & 17. A series of 3 weekly talks by U-M faculty on the fundamentals of this field. Feb. 3: Pediatric plastic surgeon Christian Vercler on "History of Clinical Ethics and Ethics" and "Epidemics and Clinical Ethics in the Time of Crisis." Feb. 10: Geriatric and pediatrics professor Adam Marks on "Ethics at the End of Life: Principles and Case Discussions" and "The Interplay between Medical Ethics and Evolving Medical Science." Feb. 17: Obstetrics and gynecology professor Edward Goldman on "Key Legal Cases in Medical Ethics" and "Ethics of Human Research." 10-11:30 a.m., for URL email OLLI.info@umich.org. \$35 per lecture (for 3-lecture series, \$50); for members, \$10 per lecture and \$25 for series; \$25 annual membership fee. 998-9351.

★**Chime Concert: Kerrystown Shops.** Every Sat. & Wed. Local chimemaster Heather O'Neal plays a short program on this 17-bell chime. 10:30 a.m. (Sat.) & noon (Wed.), KerrystownMarket&Shops.OrgGlobal@aol.com.

★**"The Social and Political Impact of Covid-19 in Central Asia": U-M Center for Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies.** Talk by U-M political science professor Pauline Jones. Noon, for URL preregister at myumi.ch/mnoGG. Free. crees@umich.edu.

★**"Craft Chat": Ann Arbor District Library.** Feb. 3 & 17. AADL staffers discuss their current crafting projects and the inspiration they find online and in books. 3 p.m., online at AADL.tv. Free. 327-4200.

★**"TriviaTime!": Ann Arbor District Library.** Every Sat. & Wed. Local sisters Katie and Abbie throw out themed questions for anyone to answer in the YouTube chat box. 4-4:30 p.m. (Wed.) and 7-7:30 p.m. (Sat.), online at AADL.tv. Free. 327-4200.

★**"Sojourners, Smugglers, and Dubious Citizens: The Politics of Armenian Migration to North America, 1885-1915": U-M Center for Armenian Studies.** Talk by Manhattanville College (Purchase, NY) history professor David Gutman. Noon, for URL preregister at myumi.ch/wloN7. Free. ArmenianStudies@umich.edu.

★**Kerrystown Crafters.** Every Wed. All crocheters, knitters, spinners, weavers, felters, sewers, and other crafters invited to work on their own projects with others. Questions welcome, help available. 7 p.m. or so, for URL join Facebook.com/groups/KTCrafters. Free. 926-8863.

★**Huron Valley Harmonizers Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society.** Every Wed. All male singers invited to join the weekly virtual rehearsals of this local barbershop harmony chorus. 7-8 p.m., for URL email info@HVharmonizers.org. Free to visitors (annual dues for those who join). 796-7467.

★**"Recipe Share": Ann Arbor District Library.** Feb. 3 & 17. All invited to discuss your favorite recipes. Feb. 3: Sheet pan meals. Feb. 17: Breakfast. 7-8 p.m., for URL see aadl.org/node/574805. Free. 327-4200.

★**"Sister Scholars: The Emergence of Orthodox Girls' Education in Interwar Poland": U-M Frankel Center for Judaic Studies.** Talk by U-M Frankel Institute fellow Naomi Seidman. 7 p.m., online at bit.ly/sisterscholars2021. Free. JudaicStudies@umich.edu.

★**Claudia Schmidt: On the Tracks Singer-Songwriter Showcase.** This Traverse City vocalist, a longtime local favorite with both folk and jazz audiences, is known for her strikingly luminous, warmly ingratiating voice. 7 p.m., online at Facebook.com/OnTheTracksSongwriterShowcase.com. Free, donations appreciated. 330-5226. OnTheTracksSS@gmail.com.

4 THURSDAY

★**Sphinx Virtuosi: University Musical Society Digital Presentation.** See 1 Monday. All day.

★**U-M Women's Basketball vs. Minnesota.** This month's schedule also includes home games vs. Maryland (Feb. 7, 2 p.m.) and Ohio State (Feb. 21, 2 p.m.). Livestream only from the Crisler Center. Time TBA, online at mGOblue.com/sports/womens-basketball/schedule. Free. 764-0247.

★**"Advances in Science": U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Thursday Morning Lecture Series.** Feb. 4, 11, & 18. The last 3 in a series of 6 weekly talks by U-M faculty. Feb. 4: Astronomy professor Edwin Bergin on "Formation of Habitable Worlds and the Search for Life." Feb. 11: Anthropology professor John Kingston on "Human Dispersal(s) from Africa." Feb. 18: Geology professor Ben van der Pluijm on "Welcome to the Anthropocene." 10-11:30 a.m., for URL email OLLI.info@umich.org. \$35 per lecture (for 6-lecture series, \$60); for members, \$10 per lecture and \$35 for series; \$25 annual membership fee. 998-9351.

★**"No More Promises: Policing Feminist Rage in Puerto Rico": U-M Romance Languages & Literature.** Talk by University of Texas Latinx studies professor Marisol LeBrón. 4-5 p.m., for URL preregister at bit.ly/prrage21. Free. rll.weekly@umich.edu.

★**U-M Kelsey Museum of Archaeology.** Feb. 4 & 5. Talks by U-M and visiting scholars. Q&A. Feb. 4 (5:30-7 p.m.): University of Western Ontario classical studies professor Elizabeth M. Greene on "The Social Life of Roman Soldiers: The Role of Wives, Children, and Families in Roman Military Communities." Feb. 5 (noon-12:30 p.m.): Kelsey Museum curator Geoff Emberling on "Ancient Africa in the Time of Black Lives Matter: Writing a New Archaeology of Kush." Various times, for URL see bit.ly/umarchaeology. Free. KelseyMuse@umich.edu.

★**"Biblio Files": Ann Arbor District Library.** Every Thurs. Three AADL staffers each answer their own questions relating to books in 5 minutes or less, such as "What is the prettiest book on your bookshelf?" 6-6:10 p.m., online at AADL.tv. Free. 327-4200.

★**"Vault of Knowledge": Vault of Midnight.** Every Thurs. Vault of Midnight events head Caleb Wimbrow hosts a trivia quiz in which participants post their answers in the live chat section. Prizes. 7 p.m., online at Instagram.com/VaultOfMidnight. Free. 998-1413.

★**Comhaltas.** Every Thurs. All invited to join members of this local chapter of the Detroit Irish Music Association for an informal evening playing traditional Irish music on various instruments. Lessons offered. 7 p.m., for URL email [Contact@DetroitIrishMusic.org](mailto>Contact@DetroitIrishMusic.org). Free. Facebook.com/DetroitIMA.

5 FRIDAY

★**Sphinx Virtuosi: University Musical Society Digital Presentation.** See 1 Monday. All day.

★**"Lunch & Learn": Temple Beth Emeth.** Every Fri. TBE rabbi Josh Whinston leads informal discussions on religion. Eat lunch during the video call, if you wish. Noon, for URL see TempleBethEmeth.org. Free.

★**"First Chapter Friday": Ann Arbor District Library.** Feb. 5 & 19. An AADL staffer reads the 1st chapter of a new or favorite middle grade or young adult book TBA. 4 p.m., AADL.tv. Free. 327-4200.

★**Rufus Wainwright: The Ark Livestream Series.** Every Fri. The son of Loudon Wainwright III and Kate McGarrigle, this acclaimed singer-songwriter specializes in lush, piano-based neocabaret pop ballads that he sings in what *Rolling Stone* calls "a rough-silk voice [that] sounds like a worn, inebriated diva sweeping down a staircase." These concerts are part of a series of 18 weekly shows from his Laurel Canyon home in which Wainwright performs his entire studio discography in chronological order. 5 p.m., for URL and tickets (\$20 in advance, \$25 day of show) see bit.ly/RW_TheArk.

★**First Friday Shabbat: Ann Arbor Jewish Cultural Society.** All invited to a brief Shabbat observance with secular readings, candle lighting, wine rituals, challah, and *Yahrzeit* observance to remem-

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ber loved ones. 6:30–7:30 p.m., for URL [preregister at JewishCulturalSociety.org/shabbat](#). Free, donations accepted. 975–9872.

★**Mark Webster Reading Series:** U-M English Department. Feb. 5 & 26. Readings by U-M second-year creative writing grad students. Feb. 5: Laurie Thomas (fiction) and Ayokunle Falomo (poetry). Feb. 26: Kelsey Wiora (fiction) and Catherine Valdez (poetry). 7 p.m., online at tinyurl.com/WebsterSeries. Free. dfrman@umich.edu, Immorrow@umich.edu.

“Twelfth Night”: Huron High School Players. Feb. 5–7. Claire Federhofer directs Huron students in an abridged version of Shakespeare’s comedy of mistaken identities and misplaced affections. Post-performance actor meet & greet. 7 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.) & 2:30 p.m. (Sun.), for URL see HuronHSBookTIX.com for tickets (\$5 per household/device). federhofer@aaps.k12.mi.us.

★“Lantern-Lit Ski and Snowshoe”: Waterloo Recreation Area. Every Fri., except Feb. 12. All invited to ski or snowshoe (conditions permitting) or walk half-mile lantern-lit loop. Bring your own snowshoes. 7–9 p.m., Eddy Discovery Center, 17030 Bush Rd., Chelsea. Free, preregistration required at bit.ly/lanternlit. McGlashenK@michigan.gov.

Billy Ray Bauer: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Feb. 5 & 6. This dynamic Detroit jester uses a fine repertoire of voices and dialects to tell fresh, lively stories, often drawn from his experiences as the father of four boys. Masks required, except when eating or drinking. 7:30 and 10 p.m., 212 S. Fourth Ave. Tickets \$15 in advance, \$17 at the door (capacity reduced to 20%). aaComedy.com, 996–9080.

★Virtual Open House: U-M Student Astronomical Society. Feb. 5 & 19. All invited to watch short astronomy presentations online by club members and learn about the planets, the Moon, the constellations, colorful binary star systems, and other visible astronomical objects. 8–10 p.m., for URL see umichSAS.com. Free.

★“Penny Stamps Speaker Series”: U-M School of Art & Design. Every Fri. Talks by visiting artists. Feb. 5: Mexican multimedia artist Pedro Reyes on “At Home in Coyacán.” Feb. 12: New Orleans artist Candy Chang on “Transforming Our Cities.” Chang is known for her participatory public art projects, such as *Before I Die*, an installation that prompts viewers to jot down their deepest desires on a massive chalkboard. Feb. 19: Spanish artist Jaume Plensa on “Behind the Walls,” the monumental sculpture recently installed outside UMMA’s front doors on State St. Feb. 26: Multimedia artist and software engineer Sophia Brueckner, a U-M art professor, on “Sci-Fi Prototyping and Critical Optimism.” 8 p.m., online at dptv.org/livetv and stamps.umich.edu/stamps. Free. 936–0671.

6 SATURDAY

★**Sphinx Virtuosi:** University Musical Society Digital Presentation. See 1 Monday. All day.

★U-M Men’s Basketball vs. Michigan State. This month’s schedule also includes home games vs. Illinois (Feb. 11, 7 p.m.) and Rutgers (Feb. 18). Livestream only from Crisler Center. Time TBA (except as noted), online at mGOblue.com/sports/mens-basketball/schedule. Free. 764–0247.

Hudson Mills Metropark Interpretive Nature Programs. Feb. 6, 13, & 27. Programs led by Hudson Mills naturalist Kim Sherwin. Masks required. Feb. 6 (9 & 11 a.m.): “Tracks, Scats, and Signs.” One-mile hike to look for prints and patterns left behind by animals. Ages 6 & up only. \$5. Feb. 13 (9 & 11 a.m.): “Science of Sledding.” Ages 8 & up invited to test out how fast or slow different materials travel downhill on snow. Bring a sled to use after the program, if you wish; \$6. Feb. 27 (7 p.m.): “Full Snow Moon Walk” Guided one-mile hike for all ages 10 & up. \$5. Various times, park activity center, 8801 North Territorial Rd., Dexter. Various fees, pre-registration required by 4 p.m. a day prior to respective event (capacity limited); \$10 vehicle entrance fee. 426–8211.

★“Ten-Minute New Play Festival”: The Purple Rose Theatre Company/Chelsea District Library. A showcase of short plays by area playwrights performed by local actors. 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., for URL preregister at bit.ly/tenminutepr. Free. 475–8732.

★“Black Women Speaking Truth to Legislative Power”: Washtenaw County Democratic Party. Washtenaw County chief assistant prosecutor Victoria Burton Harris leads a discussion on legislative remedies for riots like the January 6 attack on the Capitol. Preceded at 9:30 by general meeting updates. 10:45 a.m.–noon or so, for URL see WashtenawDems.org/calendar. Free. 883–8250.

“Creature Encounters”: The Creature Conservancy. Every Sat. & Sun. Conservancy staffers show

off animals native to the African continent, including Bed Head the African crested porcupine, a spurred tortoise, and the tenrec. Guests invited to view other animals on display, including a kangaroo, albino alligator, and binturongs. Masks required. 1–2:30 p.m. & 3–4:30 p.m., Creature Conservancy, 4950 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. \$10 (kids ages 2–12, \$8; age 2 & under, free) in advance only at TheCreatureConservancy.org (capacity limited). 929–9324.

★Volunteer Stewardship Workday: Ann Arbor Natural Area Preservation Division. Feb. 6, 15, 21, & 27. All invited to help remove invasive plants in city parks. Wear a mask, long pants, closed-toe shoes, & work gloves, and maintain a 6-foot distance from others at all times; tools, snacks, & know-how provided. All minors should be accompanied by a caregiver. Feb. 6: Furstenberg Nature Area. Feb. 15: Leslie Park. Feb. 21: Foxfire South Nature Area. Feb. 27: Mary Beth Doyle Park. 1–3 p.m., various locations; specific meeting spots identified after preregistration (required) at Secure.Rec1.com/MI/city-of-ann-arbor/catalog (click on “NAP Workdays”). Free. 794–6627.

★“Saturday Sampler”: U-M Kelsey Museum of Archaeology. Feb. 6 & 20. Virtual docent-led themed tours. Feb. 6: “Dangers Lurking around Every Corner.” Feb. 20: “Law and Order in the Ancient World.” 2–3 p.m., for URL see lsa.umich.edu/kelsey. Free. 764–9304.

“Twelfth Night”: Huron High School Players. See 5 Friday. 7 p.m.

Billy Ray Bauer: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 5 Friday. 7:30 & 10 p.m.

★Crossroads Ceili: The Ark Family Room Series. An evening of Celtic music, song, and dance hosted by Mick Gavin, a veteran Detroit Irish fiddler (and County Clare native), with an assortment of guest performers TBA. 8 p.m., for URL see Facebook.com/TheArkAnnArbor. Free, donations appreciated. 761–1451.

7 SUNDAY

★**Sphinx Virtuosi:** University Musical Society Digital Presentation. See 1 Monday. All day.

★“Sunday Talks: Jataka Tales”: Jewel Heart Buddhist Center. Every Sun. Jewel Heart resident spiritual advisor Demo Rinpoche discusses tales from this ancient collection of parables about the Buddha’s previous lives. 11 a.m., for URL preregister at bit.ly/jeweldharmatalk. Free. 994–3387.

★H.A.C. Ultimate. Every Sun. All invited to join a relaxed pickup game of this spirited team sport played with a flying disc. Overly competitive players are politely asked to leave. 11:15 a.m., Fuller Park, just west of the pool & parking lot (or occasionally across the street). Free. 846–9418, hac-UltimateList@GoogleGroups.com.

“Twelfth Night”: Huron High School Players. See 5 Friday. 2:30 p.m.

★“Wine, Women, and Song: A Funny Thing Happened On the Way ...”: Kerrytown Concert House Live @ The 415. Video compilation of archival performances from this KCH tradition, featuring jazz, classical, and cabaret songs that showcase noted local singers. 4:15 p.m., online at KerrytownConcertHouse.com. Free.

★Kol HaLev Rehearsal: Temple Beth Emeth. Every Sun. All adults invited to join the rehearsals of this volunteer choir that sings both Jewish sacred and secular music. Led by TBE cantor Regina Lambert-Hayut. Pianist Taylor Flowers accompanies. 7 p.m., for URL email CantorHayut@TempleBethEmeth.org. Free. 665–4744.

8 MONDAY

★**Sphinx Virtuosi:** University Musical Society Digital Presentation. See 1 Monday. All day.

“OLLI Reads”: U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute OLLI Reads. Feb. 8 & 24. All invited to discuss 2 new books. Feb. 8: Alice Randall’s historical novel *Black Bottom Saints*, which brings to life “Black Bottom,” the artful Detroit neighborhood that was demolished for redevelopment in the early 1960s. Feb. 24: U-M anthropology professor and physician Scott Stonington’s gripping ethnography “The Spirit Ambulance: Choreographing the End of Life in Thailand.” 10 a.m.–noon, for URL email OLLI.info@umich.org. \$35 (members, \$10); \$25 annual membership fee. 998–9351.

★“Positive Links Speaker Series”: U-M Ross Business School Center for Positive Organizations. Feb. 8 & 22. Talks by visiting scholars on practical science-based strategies to build and bolster organizations. Feb. 8: Character Lab founder and CEO Angela Duckworth, a University of Pennsylvania psychology professor, and her grad student Daniel Southwick on “The Trouble with ‘Talent’: Why Describing Ability as ‘Talent’ May Undermine Grit in the Workplace.” Feb. 22: NYU social psychology professor Dolly Chugh on “The Per-

son You Mean to Be." 1-2 p.m., for URL see bit.ly/febpositivelinks. Free.

★"Decolonizing Methods: Nubia and the Politics of Knowledge": U-M Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies/Global Islamic Studies Center. U-M faculty panelists discuss the intersections of race, politics, and history in the Global South. With Yasmin Moll (anthropology), Geoff Emberling (Kelsey Archaeology Museum researcher), and Michael Fahy (education studies). Moderated by Samer Ali (Arabic language and literature). Also, a performance by mother-daughter duo Mona-Sherif and Nabia Nelson. Mona, a Nubian native, is the founder of the Nubian Foundation for Preserving a Cultural Heritage based in L.A.; Nabia is the Foundation's director and theater artist. 4-6 p.m., for URL preregister at myumi.ch/QAvzg. Free. cmenas@umich.edu.

★"Art and Activism: Designing the Memorial to Enslaved Laborers of Virginia": U-M Institute for the Humanities. Panel discussion with memorial designers Mabel Wilson, Meejin Yoon, Eric Höweler, and Eto Otitigbe. U-M American culture professor Kristin Ann Hass moderates. 4 p.m., for URL see lsa.umich.edu/humanities. Free.

★Scandinavian Music Jam. Feb. 8 & 22. Bruce Sagan and Brad Battey lead a virtual acoustic jam session devoted to traditional music from Sweden and Norway. All instruments welcome, no experience playing Scandinavian music necessary. 7:30-9:30 p.m., for URL email bsagan@msu.edu. Free. (908) 721-2599.

★"The Formation of West Virginia": Ann Arbor Civil War Round Table. All invited to join a live Facebook discussion of Eric Wittenberg's civilwartalk.com presentation on his new book *Seceding from Secession: The Civil War, Politics, and the Creation of West Virginia*. For Wittenberg's hour-long talk, see aacwrt.org/aacnews.htm. 8:30 p.m., online at Facebook.com (search "AACWRT"). Free. jfpepper@gmail.com.

9 TUESDAY

★"Sunrise Nature Hike": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission. Casual hike led by WCPARC naturalist Elle Bogle. Masks required. 8:30-10 a.m., Miller-Smith Preserve, 8560 Dexter-Chelsea Rd., Dexter. Free. Capacity limited to 10; preregistration required by emailing boglee@washtenaw.org.

"How to Win the Game ... and Keep Winning": U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Distinguished Lecture Series. U-M business administration professor John Branch discusses the nature of competition. Q&A. 10-11:30 a.m., for URL preregister at OLLI-umich.org. \$35 per lecture (for 10-lecture series, \$80); for members, \$10 per lecture and \$55 for 10-lecture series. \$25 annual membership fee. 998-9351.

★"Pub Sing": Ann Arbor Morris. Local Morris dancers lead participants in an evening of rousing choruses, drinking songs, sea shanties, and English folk songs. No set program; all welcome to lead a

song with a singable, reasonably easy-to-learn chorus. 7-10 p.m., for URL email bsagan@msu.edu. Free.

★"Broadside and Lotus: Black-Owned Presses in Detroit": U-M Library. U-M Special Collections Research Center curator Juli McLoone shows and discusses archival work from these two publishing houses based in Detroit. Q&A. 4-5 p.m., for URL preregister at umlib.us/broadsideandlotus. Free.

★"Community, Coloniality, and Convivencia in the Festival de Danza de Santa María la Antigua del Darién, Colombia": U-M Center for World Performance Studies. University of Maryland dance and performance studies professor Melissa Blanco Borelli discusses her essay featured in the new collection *Performance, Dance and Political Economy*, and more. Q&A. 6-7 p.m., for URL preregister at bit.ly/melissabb. Free. 936-2777.

★The Brass Tacks Ensemble. Feb. 9 & 23. All invited to join members of this local ensemble to practice and discuss the Brass Tackian principles of clarity, universality, entertainment, and other essential elements of theater. Feb. 9: "Play Writing Club." Writing exercises centered on the group's principles.

Feb. 23: "Play Reading Club." Read a part in a short play, one-act or under 2 hours. Listeners welcome. 6:30-8:30 p.m., for URL see btensemble.org a week prior to event. Free. TheBrassTacksEnsemble@gmail.com.

★"This Is How You Lose the Time War": Fantasy and Science Fiction/Theory Reading Group: U-M English Department. All age 21 & over invited to discuss Amal El-Mohtar and Max Gladstone's 2019 epistolary novel about the connection between 2 lonely hitmen with the ability to inscribe letters on lava. 7-9 p.m., for URL email esrabkin@umich.edu. Free.

★U-M Bioethics Discussion Group. Feb. 9 & 23. All invited to join philosophical discussions on various themes. For questions to ponder prior to meeting, see bit.ly/febsextalk. Led by U-M biomedical engineering professor Barry Belmont. Feb. 9: "Sex".

Feb. 23: "Artificial Life." 7 p.m., online at umich.zoom.us/j/9992612645. Free. belmont@umich.edu.

★"Reading the Rocks: The Autobiography of the Earth": Sierra Club Book Club. All invited to discuss Lawrence University (Appleton, WI) geology professor Marcia Bjornerud's 2005 book. 7:30 p.m., for URL email nshiffler@comcast.net. Free. 971-1157.

10 WEDNESDAY

★"Family Adventures: Winter Birds": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission. Feb. 10 & 20. WCPARC naturalists lead a hike and show how to make an edible snack for birds. 2-3 p.m. (Feb. 10) & 10-11:30 a.m. (Feb. 20), Independence Lake County Park, 3200 Jennings. Free. Capacity limited; preregister for all age 2 & over at ParksOnline.eWashtenaw.org (search Activity #821002).

★Book Discussion and Author Q&A: Concordia University Kreft Arts Center. Feb. 10 & 17. All invited to join a discussion (Feb. 10) and author

Q&A (Feb. 17), led by Concordia English professor Erin Laverick, of Flint pediatrician Mona Hanna-Attisha's 2018 book *What the Eyes Don't See: A Story of Crisis, Resistance, and Hope in an American City*. Hanna-Attisha's research exposed the connection between Flint's water and elevated lead levels in children's blood there. 4-5 p.m., for URL see cuaa.edu/life/kreft-arts-program/lectures.html. Free.

★Cleo Parker Robinson: University Musical Society Digital Presentation. As Cleo Parker Robinson Dance (Denver) founder and artistic director, this widely respected dancer-choreographer has collaborated on diverse projects, from *Lush Life*, a work blending jazz, poetry, and dance she created with Maya Angelou, to the choreography for Georges Bizet's steamy opera *Carmen*. Tonight Robinson discusses black identity in dance with Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History CEO Neil Barclay. 5:30-7 p.m., online at bit.ly/cleorobinson. Free. 764-2538.

★"Laughter at the Happy Hour": Kerrystown Concert House Live @ The 415. Cabaret songs and stories performed by Bolcom & Morris, the world-renowned veteran local husband-and-wife duo of pianist William Bolcom (also a Pulitzer Prize-winning composer) and mezzo-soprano Joan Morris. 5:30 p.m., online at KerrystownConcertHouse.com. Free, but donations accepted.

★"An Evening of Poetry and Written Word": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room. All invited to read and discuss poetry or short fiction. Have your original work ready to share, if you wish. 7 p.m. (sign up for new participants begins at 6:45 p.m.), for URL email cwPoetryCircle@gmail.com. Free.

Amy Speace: The Ark Livestream Series. Nashville-based folk singer-songwriter originally from Hoboken whose music ranges from contemplative to rocking. Discovered by Judy Collins in the early 2000s, Speace left her job as a classically trained Shakespearean actor and kicked off her music career with a string of critically acclaimed albums. "Amy Speace is on a roll. Each new release has brought an expansion of her voice and her art, and she has reached the level of absolute mastery," says the celebrated country noir singer-songwriter Mary Gauthier. "Folk music doesn't get any better than this." 8 p.m., for URL and tickets (\$15-\$25), see TheArk.org.

11 THURSDAY

★"Climate, Coffee, & Conversation": City of Ann Arbor Office of Sustainability and Innovations. All invited to chat about anything related to sustainability in the city and elsewhere. 8 a.m., online at bit.ly/climatecoffeeandconversation. Free. ZWaasSmith@a2gov.org.

★"Using Racist Memorabilia to Teach Tolerance and Promote Social Justice": First Presbyterian Church Lunch & Learn Series. Talk by David Pilgrim, curator of the Jim Crow Museum of Racist Memorabilia at Ferris State University. Noon-1 p.m., for URL call. Free. 355-2351.

films

Feb. 28: "Boyz n the Hood" (John Singleton, 1991). Thoughtful, realistic look at a man's coming-of-age in inner city L.A. Emagine only. 3 & 7 p.m.

U-M Center for Southeast Asian Studies. FREE. 764-6307.

Feb. 12: "Ghost Tape #10" (Sean David Christensen, 2018). Documentary about audio tapes used by the U.S. in the Vietnam War to weaponize Buddhist beliefs against the North Vietnamese Army. Post-film discussion with director. For URL, preregister at bit.ly/febnuclernation. 8-9:30 p.m.

U-M Center for Japanese Studies. FREE. 764-0352.

Feb. 22: "Nuclear Nation" (Atsushi Funahashi, 2013). Documentary about Japan's nuclear refugees from the 2011 Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster. Post-film discussion with director. For URL, preregister at bit.ly/febnuclernation. 8-9:30 p.m.

Michigan Theater Virtual Movie Palace. New titles available all month online at MichTheater.org/Screenings for 2-10 days after you start watching. Full February schedule online. \$6-\$12 per film.

"Another Round" (Thomas Vinterberg, 2020). Comedy about 4 friends maintaining a consistent level of intoxication throughout the workday to study its psychological and social effects. Danish & Swedish, subtitles.

"The Tobacconist" (Nikolaus Leytner, 2018). Sentimental parable about an Austrian who befriends Freud at the moment of the German occupation of Vienna. German, subtitles.

"Blizzard of Souls" (Dzintars Dreibergs, 2020). Historical drama about WWI Latvian, subtitles.

"A Glitch in the Matrix" (Rodney Ascher, 2020). Sci-fi documentary questioning reality as we know it.

"The Reason I Jump" (Jerry Rothwell, 2020). Documentary about the lives of 5 kids living with autism.

"Some Kind of Heaven" (Lance Oppenheim, 2020). Documentary about the unhappy residents of a massive, self-contained retirement community in Central Florida.

"Acasa, My Home" (Radu Ciorniciuc, 2020). Documentary about a Romanian family dispossessed to make way for a nature park. Romanian, subtitles.

"My Little Sister" (Stéphanie Chuat & Véronique Reymond, 2020). Drama about a woman returning home to be with her twin brother, ill with cancer. German & French, subtitles.

"RAMS" (Jeremy Sims, 2020). Comedy about 2 estranged Australian brothers who must work together to save their separate sheep flocks from a lethal illness.

"You Will Die at Twenty" (Amjad Abu Alala, 2019). Coming-of-age fable about a young Sudanese boy who's told by the village holy man that he will die at the age of 20. Arabic, subtitles.

"True Mothers" (Naomi Kawase, 2020). Drama about a happy family with an adopted son whose birth mom returns unexpectedly. Japanese, subtitles.

"Two of Us" (Filippo Meneghetti, 2020). Drama about a decades-long secret love affair between 2 older women that's severely tested when one of them has a stroke. French, subtitles.

"A Glitch in the Matrix" (Rodney Ascher, 2020). Sci-fi documentary questioning reality as we know it.

Washtenaw County Historical Society



History?

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★**Lecture Series: U-M Center for Japanese Studies.** Feb. 11 & 18. Talks by U-M and visiting scholars. Feb. 11 (noon-1:30 p.m.): U-M women's and gender studies professor Allison Alexy on "Intimate Disconnections: Divorce and the Romance of Independence in Contemporary Japan." Feb. 18 (7-8:30 p.m.): Korean documentary filmmaker and photographer Kim Jongwook on "At the Crossroads of Peace and Coexistence: Documenting the Lives of Japanese Wives of Korean Repatriates." Various times, for URL see bit.ly/febjapanestudies. Free. umcjs@umich.edu.

★**"Getting More Mileage from Your Garden": Ann Arbor Farm & Garden.** Talk by Garden A to Z (White Lake) co-owner Janel Macunovich. 1 p.m., for URL preregister at bit.ly/aafgarden. \$10 (members, free). 330-8521.

Darlingside: The Ark Livestream Series. Boston-area acoustic folk-rock quartet whose music uses a mix of classical, bluegrass, and rock instrumentation to support enchanting 4-part vocal arrangements that draw on the vocabularies of folk, retro-pop, barbershop, and chamber music. "There are notes of CSNY and Simon & Garfunkel evident, but Darlingside's lyrics are goofier, their harmonies fuller and more joyful, and their instrumentation more adventurous—containing splashes of baroque folk, indie rock and Americana," says *No Depression* critic Mike Seely in his review of the band's acclaimed 2016 CD, *Birds Say*. 3 & 8 p.m., for URL and tickets (\$15-\$50), see TheArk.org.

★**Marcelo Hernandez Castillo: U-M English Department Zell Visiting Writers Series.** Reading by this award-winning writer and U-M Zell program grad, a Mexico native who immigrated to California at age 5. His recent memoir, *Children of the Land*, illuminates the lives behind the immigration headlines. Q&A. 5-6:30 p.m., online at tinyurl.com/Zell-Writers. Free. 764-6330.

★**"Nerd Nite": Ann Arbor Adventure Club.** Popular event featuring 3 speakers TBA who give fun yet informative 20-minute talks about things that interest them, from the history of drunken surveyors and Uzbeki seas to the science of healing. Followed by a discussion. 7 p.m., for URL email burrbar7@hotmail.com. Free.

★**"Singing for Comfort": Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth.** All invited to tune in to a sing-along of soothing songs that are easy to learn. No experience necessary. 7 p.m., for URL see InterfaithSpirit.org. Free, donations appreciated. 327-0270.

★**"Galentines Day Card Making": Zingerman's Corman Farms.** Demo by M.B. Calligraphy staffers. Galentine's Day, inspired by a 2010 Parks & Recreation episode, is celebrated on February 13 as a day for "ladies celebrating ladies." 7:15 p.m., for URL preregister at Shop.ZingermansCormanFarms.com. Price TBA.

12 FRIDAY

★**"Gandhi and the Claims of Indian Modernity": U-M Center for South Asian Studies.** Talk by

Columbia University philosophy professor Akeel Bilgrami. 4:30 p.m., for URL preregister at bit.ly/fbcsas. Free. csas@umich.edu.

★**"Stargazing with Your Sweetheart": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission.** Pairs of 2 (couples, friends, or other) invited for an hour of stargazing facilitated by WCPARC naturalist Kelsey Dehring. Followed by a bonfire with hot cocoa and other treats. Masks required. 6:30 & 7:30 p.m.; *Independence Lake County Park*, 3200 Jennings. \$5 per couple. Capacity limited; preregister at ParksOnline.eWashtenaw.org (search Activity #IL461100).

★**Naki Sung Kripfgans: American Guild of Organists.** Performance by this First Methodist Church organist. 7-8 p.m., online at AnnArborAGO.org. Free. WebAdmin@AnnArborAGO.org.

★**U-M Women's Gymnastics vs. Nebraska.** This month's schedule also includes a meet vs. Maryland (Feb. 19). Livestream only from Crisler Center. 7 p.m., online at mGOblue.com/sports/womens-gymnastics/schedule. Free. 764-0247.

★**"9th Annual Creature Courtship: Love Is in the Air": The Creature Conservancy.** Feb. 12 & 13. Frank but fun presentation with live animals on methods of seduction and reproduction in the animal kingdom, featuring black swans, kangaroo, Burmese python, and more. Masks required. For adults only. 7 p.m., *Creature Conservancy*, 4940 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. \$35; capacity limited, preregistration required at TheCreatureConservancy.org. 929-9324.

★**"The Tempest: Act 5": Community High School Ensemble Theatre.** See review p. 37. Quinn Strassel directs CHS students and the school's recently retired iconic literature teacher Judith DeWoskin in a virtual staging of the final act of Shakespeare's visionary romance about a magical island ruled by an enigmatic sorcerer and her beautiful daughter. *The Tempest* contains some of Shakespeare's most gorgeously haunting poetry. 7:30 p.m., online at a2cet.org; all 5 acts will remain available through the academic school year. Free. 994-2025.

Tracey MacDonald: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Feb. 12 & 13. This L.A.-based Canadian comic is known for her alternately acerbic and self-deprecating observational humor. Masks required, except when eating or drinking. 7:30 and 10 p.m., 212 S. Fourth Ave. Tickets \$17 in advance, \$19 at the door (capacity reduced to 20%). aaComedy.com, 996-9080.

13 SATURDAY

Huron Gun Collectors. Feb. 13 & 14. About 100 dealers and collectors offer guns, knives, ammunition, and other hunting equipment for sale, including antiques and collectibles. Concessions. Age 17 & under must be accompanied by an adult. Masks required. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. (Sat.) & 9 a.m.-3 p.m. (Sun.), *Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds*, 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Admission \$5 (members, \$3; kids age 12 & under, free). (517) 546-4710.

★**Remote-Controlled Car Racing: Washtenaw RC Speedway.** Feb. 13 & 27. One of the largest regular gatherings of RC racers in the country features off-road dirt-track racing for stock and modified model electric trucks and buggies. Each racer can bring

one guest spectator only. Masks required. Covid-19 screening at entrance, and social distancing enforced. Racing starts at 10 a.m. (speedway opens at 8 a.m.) and goes until everyone is done. *Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds*, 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd., Saline. Free admission. \$15 to race (additional entries, \$10). Facebook.com/WashtenawRCSpeedway.

★**"Rolled Paper Valentines": Ecology Center of Ann Arbor Craft & Chat.** Prerecorded talk by Ecology Center staffers to introduce the waste stream of paper and cardboard and discuss sustainable paper options. Followed by a demo on how to make a card and picture frame using magazines. 10 a.m., online at YouTube.com (search "Ecology Center of Ann Arbor"). Free. munro@EcoCenter.org.

★**"Stewardship Saturday": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission.** All invited to help remove invasive plants. Be prepared for hiking and off-trail work; bring a mask and water. 1-4 p.m., *Draper-Houston Preserve*, 578 Mooreville Rd., Milan. Free. Capacity limited to 10, preregistration required by emailing carlislec@washtenaw.org.

★**Know Obstacles: Oz's Music Environment.** All invited to play instruments, sing songs, and tell jokes with members of this band for kids and adults with special needs. Spectators welcome. 3:30 p.m., for online meeting URL see bit.ly/ozkidsopenmic (meeting ID 933 1925 5392; password 362147). Free. 662-8283.

★**U-M Volleyball vs. Purdue.** Feb. 13 & 14. The U-M also has matches this month against Maryland (Feb. 19 & 20). Livestream only from Cliff Keen Arena. 6 p.m., online at mGOblue.com/sports/womens-volleyball/schedule. Free. 764-0247.

★**34th Annual Storytelling Festival: The Ark Family Room Series.** Performances by 3 top storytellers from around the country. Lineup: Lyn Ford, a nationally recognized Columbus-based storyteller with a repertoire of stories from various African American traditions. Also, Chetter Galloway, a Virginia-bred storyteller who got his start as a living history interpreter at Colonial Williamsburg and has since been featured at an array of prestigious venues from the National Black Arts Festival to the Smithsonian, and Antonio Rocha, a Brazilian native now living in Maine whose performances blend folktales, mime, and social justice stories based on his experiences as an immigrant. Emcee is Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild president Steve Daut. 7:30 p.m., for URL see Facebook.com/TheArkAnnArbor. Free, donations appreciated. 761-1451.

★**"Mr. B's Birthday Bounce": Kerrytown Concert House Live @ The 415.** Popular annual concert by world-renowned local blues pianist Mark "Mr. B" Braun, an exuberant, powerful performer whose repertoire includes both boogie-woogie and blues classics, along with some originals in the same vein. 7:30 p.m., online at KerrytownConcertHouse.com. Free, donations accepted.

Tracey MacDonald: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 12 Friday. 7:30 & 10 p.m.

Marlena Studer and Steve Ragsdale: Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth Cafe 704. Jazz by the local duo of vocalist Studer and guitarist Ragsdale. 8 p.m., for URL and tickets (\$8), see InterfaithSpirit.org. 327-0270.

kids calendar

Nature Programs. Programs led by Hudson Mills naturalists. Masks required. Feb. 20: **"Colors."** Ages 3-6 invited to search for and play with color found in nature. Feb. 27: **"Snow Play."** Ages 3-4 invited to paint the snow, look for animal signs, and more. Alternate activities if no snow. Park activity center, 8801 North Territorial Rd., Dexter. \$5 (2 & under, free), preregistration required by 4 p.m. a day prior to event (capacity limited); \$10 vehicle entrance fee. 426-8211.

Feb. 12 & 26 (5:30-9 p.m.): **"Pets and Pajamas Movie Night": Humane Society of Huron Valley.** All ages 5-11 invited to watch a movie and interact with adoptable pets. Pizza dinner. Wear pajamas and bring a sleeping bag, pillow, and a water bottle. Social distancing enforced, masks required. Feb. 12: Pete Docter & Ronnie del Carmen's 2015 Oscar-winning animated film *Inside Out*, about the personified emotions of a young girl. Feb. 26: Disney's classic 1967 *The Jungle Book*. Humane Society, 3100 Cherry Hill. \$35 (additional children, \$15), preregistration required (capacity limited to 10 participants). 661-3575.

Feb. 27 (3:30 p.m.): **"Kids Virtual Open Mic": Oz's Music Environment.** All kids invited to join a Zoom gathering to sing songs, make music, tell jokes, and more. For URL see bit.ly/ozkidsopenmic (meeting ID, 933 1925 5392; password, 362147). Free. 662-8283.

14 SUNDAY

★**"The Religious Contribution(s) to Human Violence": First United Methodist Church Conversations About Science and Religion.** All invited to join a discussion led by local First Unitarian Church senior minister emeritus Ken Phifer. 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m., for URL email debbie@fumc-a2.org or call. Free. 662-4536, TinyURL.com/FUMC-ConvScience-Religion.

★**"Life, Love, and Art: Alfred Stieglitz and Georgia O'Keefe": Jewish Community Center/Beth Israel Congregation.** Slide-illustrated talks by WSU art history instructor Wendy Evans. 1 p.m., for URL preregister at BethIsrael-aa.org/form/LivingRoomLectures. Free.

★**James Ehnes and Orion Weiss: University Musical Society Digital Presentation.** Feb. 14-24. Performance by these world-renowned recitalists who perform together frequently, prerecorded in Ehnes' home. Florida-based Canadian violinist Ehnes, a former protégé of Francis Chaplin, won a 2019 Grammy for best classical instrumental solo for his live recording of Aaron Jay Kernis's violin Concerto with the Seattle Symphony and Ludovic Morlot. American pianist Weiss, named Classical Recording Foundation's Young Artist of 2010, performs regularly with some of the country's most prominent symphony orchestras. Program: Schubert's Sonatina in G minor and Saint-Saëns' Sonata no. 1. Available from 4 p.m. Feb. 14 through Feb. 24, online at bit.ly/eheineweiss. Free. 764-2538.

★**Valentine's Day Cabaret: Kerrytown Concert House Live @ The 415.** Love songs and Broadway favorites from the U-M music faculty husband-and-wife duo Chelsea and Geoff Packard. Accompanied by pianist Tyler Driskil. 5:30 p.m., online at KerrytownConcertHouse.com. Free, but donations accepted.

★**"When Love Goes Wrong": Academy of Early Music.** Feb. 14-21. Performance by The Four Nations Ensemble, a New York-based early-music ensemble, led by harpsichordist Andrew Appel, that plays on period instruments. Program: Giuseppe Tartini's Sonata in G minor, Louis-Nicolas Clérambault's *Medea* cantata, Vivaldi's Sonata for cello and continuo, and a selection of love songs by Barbara Strozzi and Henry Purcell. Available from 8 p.m. Feb. 14 through Feb. 21, online at AcademyOfEarlyMusic.org. Free. 228-4338.

★**"My Folky Valentine": The Ark Family Room Series.** In celebration of romance, the veteran Chelsea-based wife-and-husband folk-rock duo Annie & Rod Capps host other Michigan musical couples TBA. 8 p.m., for URL see facebook.com/TheArkAnnArbor. Free, donations appreciated. 761-1451.

15 MONDAY

★**James Ehnes and Orion Weiss: University Musical Society Digital Presentation.** See 14 Sunday. All day.

★**"When Love Goes Wrong": Academy of Early Music.** See 14 Sunday. All day.

★**"Representations of Empowerment and Resilience in the Black Experience": U-M Clements Library Bookworm.** U-M School of Information grad student Samantha Hill, a Clements Library fellow, shows and discusses early staged photographs of African Americans featured in Clements's new exhibit *Framing Identity*. 10 a.m., for URL preregister at myumi.ch/gjgzR. Free. 649-3370.

★**Monthly Meeting: Embroiderers' Guild of America.** Stitchers of all abilities and interests are invited to work on their own stitching projects and socialize. 7 p.m., for URL call 330-5724. Free to visitors (\$52 annual dues).

★**Katie Hammond: Ann Arbor Women Artists.** Talk by this local acrylic painter, whose works involve such dichotomies as reverence and rebellion, humor and cynicism, and high art and kitsch. 7 p.m., for URL see AnnArborWomenArtists.org. Free. AnnArborWomenArtists@gmail.com.

★**"The Vascular Flora of E.S. George Reserve": Michigan Botanical Club.** U-M George Reserve (Pinckney) botanist Robyn J. Burnham, a U-M ecology professor emerita, presents illustrated slides on the flora of this 1,270-acre area in Pinckney that has been managed by U-M since the 1930s. She also discusses the reserve flora in the context of the plants found in the rest of Livingston county. 7 p.m., for URL email kshaw@comcast.net. Free. 718-6114.

16 TUESDAY

★**James Ehnes and Orion Weiss: University Musical Society Digital Presentation.** See 14 Sunday. All day.

★**"When Love Goes Wrong": Academy of Early Music.** See 14 Sunday. All day.

★**"Mental Health Perspectives During the Covid-19 Pandemic": U-M Osher Lifelong Learn-**

galleries

New exhibits this month:

Ann Arbor Fiberarts Guild, online only at Facebook (search "Fiberarts Guild"; starts Feb. 9) or AnnArborFiberArts.org (starts Feb. 25). Member 2D/3D. Two- and three-dimensional works in various forms of fiber by guild members. Virtual reception Feb. 8, 7 p.m. Virtual reception Feb. 8, 7 p.m.

Gutman Gallery, 118 N. 4th Ave. reUNITED (Jan. 22–Feb. 27). Multimedia works by 18 national and international artists, including bronze figurative sculptures by area artist Laura Testé, acrylic paintings displayed virtually only by Lithuanian artist Tomas Lagūnavičius, and more. Masks required. Wed.–Sat., 11 a.m.–5 p.m., or by appointment (email elizabeth@theguild.org).

U-M Institute for the Humanities, 202 S. Thayer. *For Your Eyes Only* (Feb. 15–Apr. 20). L.A.-based Yemeni American multidisciplinary artist

Yasmine Nasser Diaz recreates the basement bedroom she once shared with her sisters. Street viewing only, illuminated 24/7.

U-M Stamps Gallery, online only at stamps.umich.edu/exhibitions. *Story, Word, Sound, Sway* (Jan. 26–Feb. 28). Multidisciplinary work by 11 Stamps alumni to question systems of oppression.

WSG Gallery, Ann Arbor Art Center, 117 W. Liberty. *Something About the Light* (Feb. 3–Mar. 11). Works in various media celebrating "hope for all things to come" by WSG's 14 members. Masks required. Tues.–Sat. 10 a.m.–6 p.m. wsg-art.com, 994–8004.

Yourist Studio Gallery, 1133 Broadway. *Winter Exhibit* (all Feb.). Functional and decorative ceramics by Kay Yourist and Yourist's resident ceramicist Nancy Bulkley. Masks required. Tues., Wed., Fri., Sat. noon–6 p.m. 662–4914.

ing Institute/Turner Senior Wellness Program Urgent and Critical Lecture Series. Talk by U-M epidemiologist Emily Toth Martin and U-M infectious disease physician Lona Mody. 10–11:30 a.m., online at bit.ly/mentalhealth. Free. 998–9351.

★"Stranger Still: Translating Contemporary Poetry from Israel/Palestine": U-M Frankel Center for Judaic Studies. Two expats based in Tel Aviv—Karen Alkalay-Gut and Sabine Huynh—discuss their experiences as prolific multilingual poets in Israel and the role of translation in their work. Then, they read selections from their works. Noon, for URL preregister at bit.ly/strangerstill. Free. JudaicStudies@umich.edu.

★"Democratization and Violence in the Korean Context": U-M Nam Center for Korean Studies. Talk by Kansai Gaidai University (Japan) foreign studies professor Jonson Porteux. 4:30–5:45 p.m., for URL see bit.ly/umichnam. Free. ncks.info@umich.edu.

★"Marketing and Your Corporate Voice": American Business Women's Association. Talk by Marilyn L. Gordon, founder of the Detroit-area business communications coaching company Mediatact. 6:15 p.m., for URL preregister at abwa-maia.org/events.html. Free. walkers@umich.edu.

★Ikebana International. Feb. 16 & 18. Prerecorded videos of demos of this Japanese style of flower arranging led by instructors TBA. 7 p.m. (Tues.) and 2 p.m. (Thurs.), for URL email a2ikebana@gmail.com. Free.

★Jason Reynolds and Brendan Kiely: Ann Arbor District Library. These 2 writers discuss their 2015 novel *All American Boys*, the 2021 Washtenaw Reads selection. Written in two voices, it depicts a black teenager assaulted in a convenience store by a white police officer who wrongly suspects him of stealing. 7 p.m., online at AADL.tv. Free. 327–4200.

★"Flint Water Update": Huron Valley Sierra Club. Talk by Flint resident and activist Melissa Mays and ACLU Michigan legal director Mike Steinberg. Mays is the plaintiff in 2 legal cases related to Flint's water: the 1st led to a \$97 million settlement to replace all of Flint's lead pipes, the 2nd is an ongoing case to compensate Flint residents for damage caused by poisoned water. 7:30–9 p.m., online at bit.ly/flintwaterhvg. Free. hvg@MichiganSierraClub.org.

★"Instruments of Africa: Liberia and West Africa": U-M School of Music. Talk by U-M musicology professor emeritus Lester Monts. 8 p.m., for URL preregister at myumi.ch/yK51W. Free. 764–0583.

17 WEDNESDAY

★James Ehnes and Orion Weiss: University Musical Society Digital Presentation. See 14 Sunday. All day.

★"When Love Goes Wrong": Academy of Early Music. See 14 Sunday. All day.

"Washtenaw Refugee Coalition: Refugees Given a Voice": U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Afternoons with OLLI. Washtenaw Refugee Coalition founder Beth Wilensky discusses her new interfaith group of refugee advocates. 3:30–5 p.m., for URL email OLLI.info@umich.org. \$30 (members, \$5); \$25 annual membership fee. 998–9351.

★"U.S. Policy in the Middle East: Human Rights and/or National Interests": U-M Dona Human Rights Center. Former U.S. ambassador to Egypt (1997–2001) and Israel (2001–05) Daniel C. Kurtzer in discussion with U-M public policy professor emerita Susan Waltz and U-M political science professor Mark Tessler. 4:30–5:45 p.m.,

for URL preregister at myumi.ch/pdb9W. Free. umichHumanRights@umich.edu.

"Evenings with Aaron": Deep Spring Center. All invited to discuss their metaphysical questions with others with similar interests. The evening is led by Aaron, a "being of light" channeled by Barbara Brodsky, who offers a talk on a variety of spiritual practices, including Vipassana and Pure Awareness meditation. Q&A. 7–9 p.m., for URL preregister at DeepSpring.org. \$10–\$30 suggested donation. 477–5848, DeepSpring9@gmail.com.

★"Releasing Roots: Hebrew Poetry in Translation": U-M Frankel Center for Judaic Studies. Talk by modern Hebrew translator Adriana X. Jacobs, a U-M Frankel Institute fellow. 7–8 p.m., online at bit.ly/releasingroots2021. Free. JudaicStudies@umich.edu.

★"Demystifying Great Lakes Waterbirds in Flight": Washtenaw Audubon Society. Talk by Whitefish Point Bird Observatory outreach & education specialist Alison Vilag. 7:10 p.m., for URL see bit.ly/greatlakeswaterbirds. Free.

★"How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the American Cheese: Food, Status, and the Myth of Virtuous Consumption": AAUW–Ann Arbor. Talk by U-M Sustainable Food Systems initiative lecturer Margot Finn. 7:30 p.m., for URL see AnnArbor-ML.aauw.net. Free. Facebook.com/AAUWAnnArbor.

"Not Your Mother's Fairy Tales": Ann Arbor Storytellers' Guild Living Room Live! Six storytellers from across the country tell original tales, from quirky and funny to thought-provoking and troubling, inspired by old classics. Suitable for adults and older children. With Tobey Anderson, Norm Brecke, Steve Daut, Ingrid Nixon, Laura Packer, and Anne Rutherford. 8 p.m., for URL preregister at SteveDaut.com/SpecialEvent.html. \$15 suggested donation. Mail@SteveDaut.com.

18 THURSDAY

★James Ehnes and Orion Weiss: University Musical Society Digital Presentation. See 14 Sunday. All day.

★"When Love Goes Wrong": Academy of Early Music. See 14 Sunday. All day.

★"Free Improvisation and Jazz Avant-Garde in Poland: From Tomasz Stańko to Mikołaj Trzaska": U-M Copernicus Center for Polish Studies. Talk (with musical examples) by Institute of Photonic Sciences (Spain) physics professor Maciej Lewenstein, a longtime jazz enthusiast and author of *Polish Jazz Recordings and Beyond*. Also, on Feb. 20 & 21 (time TBA), livestream jazz improvisations by Polish jazz saxophonist-clarinetist-composer Trzaska and drummer-bassist Macio Moretti. For info, see events.umich.edu/group/3110. Noon–1:20 p.m., for URL preregister at myumi.ch/nboXz. Free. WeiserCenter@umich.edu.

"Mapping in the Enlightenment": U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. Talk by U-M Clements Library maps curator Mary Pedley. 1–2:30 p.m., for URL email OLLI.info@umich.org. \$35 (members, \$10); \$25 annual membership fee. 998–9351.

★Joan Silber: U-M English Department Zell Visiting Writers Series. Reading by this New York fiction writer whose detailed, realistic stories "spotlight the drama inherent in ordinary lives without sentiment or pretension," writes Linda B. Osborne in the *Washington Post Book World*. Her most recent novel, *Improvement*, won both a National Book Critics Circle and PEN/Faulkner award. Q&A. Silber also gives a talk tomorrow (see listing). 5–6:30 p.m., online at tinyurl.com/ZellWriters. Free. 764–6330.

★"Policy Talk": U-M Ford School of Public Policy. MSU economics and international relations

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NCA Accreditation



Enrollment Meetings for 2021

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★ Denotes a free event

professor Lisa D. Cooke and U-M public policy professor Betsey Stevenson discuss Cooke's research on the relative lack of racial and gender diversity among recent patent applicants. 4–5 p.m., online at bit.ly/umpolicytalks. Free. fspp-events@umich.edu.

★“Risk, Bodies, and Disease: Transatlantic Slavery and the History of Science and Medicine”: U-M Eisenberg Institute for Historical Studies. Talk by University of Wisconsin history professor Pablo F. Gómez. 4 p.m., for URL [preregister at bit.ly/februaryeishs](http://bit.ly/februaryeishs). Free. EisenbergInstitute@umich.edu.

★“Jazz Chats with Cool Cats”: Kerrystown Concert House Live @ The 415. Local drummer Pete Siers and legendary local jazz patron Don Chisholm discuss, with musical examples, Chisholm's passion, service, and philanthropy for jazz and the musicians who serve it. 5:30 p.m., online at KerrystownConcertHouse.com. Free, donations accepted.

19 FRIDAY

★James Ehnes and Orion Weiss: University Musical Society Digital Presentation. See 14 Sunday. All day.

★“When Love Goes Wrong”: Academy of Early Music. See 14 Sunday. All day.

★“Generosity in Fiction”: U-M English Department Zell Visiting Writers Series. Fiction writer Joan Silber (see 18 Thursday listing) presents a talk on how to create fiction that is generous to its characters without being stupidly innocent or ignorant of human nature. 10 a.m., online at tinyurl.com/ZellWriters. Free. 764–6330.

★“Halfway Home: Race, Punishment, and the Afterlife of Mass Incarceration”: U-M Poverty Solutions Book Talk. University of Chicago social work professor Reuben Jonathan Miller discusses his new book with Cornell University sociology professor Anna Haskins and Covington & Burling Law Firm (D.C.) senior counselor Broderick Johnson. 8 p.m., for URL [see poverty.umich.edu/news-events](http://poverty.umich.edu/news-events). Free.

★“Empires of Vice: The Rise of Opium Prohibition Across Southeast Asia”: U-M Center for Southeast Asian Studies. Talk by Georgetown University Asian studies professor Diana Kim. Noon, for URL [preregister at bit.ly/3raW5IZ](http://bit.ly/3raW5IZ). Free. cseas@umich.edu.

★“Memory Verses Oblivion: Social Frames and the Creation of Collective Pasts”: U-M Center for South Asian Studies Trautmann Honorary Lecture. Talk by University of Texas history professor Sumit Guha. 4:30 p.m., for URL [preregister at bit.ly/trautmann2021](http://bit.ly/trautmann2021). Free. csas@umich.edu.

“Euchre Change a Life!” Five-game online euchre tournament. Sign up with a partner, or get paired with one by the organizers. Prizes. Proceeds benefit Haitian children. 6:30–9 p.m., for URL [preregister at TinyURL.com/LRLive2U](http://tinyURL.com/LRLive2U). Pay what you can (\$10 or more suggested donation). Mail@SteveDaut.com.

★Human Rites Trio and Mara Rosenbloom. Edgefest 24 (Kerrystown Concert House). Double bill. The New York trio of acclaimed composer-violinist Jason Kao Hwang and his longtime bandmates—bassist Ken Filiano and drummer Andrew Drury—play a species of what *DownBeat* critic Philip Freeman calls “heavy, profound music” that falls somewhere between jazz, chamber music, and entirely uncategorizable. Wisconsin-based composer-pianist Rosenbloom, part of prominent New York drummer William Hooker’s trio, has been described by *All About Jazz* as “a whole hearted poet of the piano.” This is the 5th in a series of monthly concerts that constitute this year’s edition of Edgefest, listed by *DownBeat* as one of the world’s top 50 jazz/avant music festivals. Live from KCH. 7:30 p.m., online at KerrystownConcertHouse.com/Edgefest. Free, donations accepted.

Keith Ruff: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Feb. 19 & 20. This Detroit-area comic is known for his crisp, clever, slightly twisted topical commentary and for his high-spirited, often whimsical performing style. Masks required, except when eating or drinking. 7:30 and 10 p.m., 212 S. Fourth Ave. Tickets \$15 in advance, \$17 at the door (capacity reduced to 20%). aaComedy.com, 996–9080.

Virtual Play Reading: Penny Seats Theatre Company Arcade Series. Virtual reading of a play TBA. 8 p.m., for URL preregister at PennySeats.org. Tickets \$5. ThePennySeats@gmail.com.

20 SATURDAY

★James Ehnes and Orion Weiss: University Musical Society Digital Presentation. See 14 Sunday. All day.

★“When Love Goes Wrong”: Academy of Early Music. See 14 Sunday. All day.

★Death Cafe. All invited to join a frank conversation about death. Hosted by The Dying Year owner Merilynne Rush, Diana Cramer and Rachel Briggs.

10:30 a.m.–noon, for URL [TheDyingYear@gmail.com](mailto:email TheDyingYear@gmail.com). Free.

★“Weighing and Counting Giants in the Sky”: U-M Physics Department Saturday Morning Physics. U-M physics research fellow Maria Eliadaiana da Silva Pereira discusses galaxy clusters and what they tell us about the evolution of the universe in this popular series of talks, aimed at general audiences. 10:30–11:30 a.m., for URL [see SaturdayMorningPhysics.org](http://SaturdayMorningPhysics.org). Free. 763–2588, crabuck@umich.edu.

★“Demo Fair”: MacTechnics. Group members demonstrate and discuss Mac-related apps, games, photography, art, music, and more. Followed by a Q&A for Mac questions of any kind. 11 a.m.–1 p.m., for URL [Contact@MacTechnics.org](mailto:email Contact@MacTechnics.org). Free. MacTechnics.org.

Keith Ruff: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 19 Friday. 7:30 & 10 p.m.

21 SUNDAY

★James Ehnes and Orion Weiss: University Musical Society Digital Presentation. See 14 Sunday. All day.

★“When Love Goes Wrong”: Academy of Early Music. See 14 Sunday. All day.

★“Baking Powder Wars: The Cutthroat Food Fight That Revolutionized Cooking”: Culinary Historians of Ann Arbor. California food historian Linda Civitello discusses her 2017 book. 4–5:15 p.m., for URL preregister at CulinaryHistoriansAnnArbor.org/program-schedule. Free. a2culinaryhistorians@gmail.com.

★Kazimierz Brzozowski: Kerrystown Concert House Live @ The 415 Steinway Sessions. Program TBA by this pianist, a Chopin Academy of Music (Warsaw, Poland) and U-M music school grad who has won several national and international awards. 5:30 p.m., online at KerrystownConcertHouse.com. Free, donations accepted.

★“Virtual Cabaret”: Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor Fundraiser. Veteran Tony-winning Broadway star Tovah Feldshuh and NYC-based cabaret performer Ari Axelrod, an Ann Arbor native, sing show tunes. 6:30–8:30 p.m., for URL preregister at JewishAnnArbor.org/MainEvent21. Tickets \$36 (\$54 includes a copy of Feldshuh’s new book *Lilyville: Mother, Daughter, and Other Roles I’ve Played*; \$136 includes book and a post-performance Q&A with Feldshuh and Axelrod); additional donations of \$100 or more strongly encouraged. Info@JewishAnnArbor.org.

Anne Rutherford and Norm Breke: Ann Arbor Storytellers’ Guild Living Room Live! Storytelling by this veteran duo from the Pacific Northwest whose repertoires include a wide assortment of folktales and lots of humor. Their light, silly style is fun for adults and kids alike. 7 p.m., for URL preregister at TinyURL.com/LRLive2U. Pay what you can (\$10 or more suggested donation). Mail@SteveDaut.com.

★Ann Arbor (Mostly) Acoustic Open Mic. Musicians of all ability levels and ages invited to sing and play anything from classic rock, Motown, and blues to bluegrass, folk, and country with others. All acoustic instruments (strings, horns, and woodwinds) welcome. Led by veteran local musicians Bill Connors and Phil McMillion. 7–9 p.m., for URL preregister at MeetUp.com/Ann-Arbor-Acoustic-Jam. Free. 973–7791.

22 MONDAY

★James Ehnes and Orion Weiss: University Musical Society Digital Presentation. See 14 Sunday. All day.

23 TUESDAY

★James Ehnes and Orion Weiss: University Musical Society Digital Presentation. See 14 Sunday. All day.

★“The Team in Leadership”: U-M Ford School of Public Policy. Former U-M men’s basketball head coach John Beilein discusses how to build effective teams, deal with team conflict, and other topics with U-M Ford School Leadership Initiative faculty director Paula Lantz. 4–5 p.m., online at bit.ly/umteamleadership. Free. fspp-events@umich.edu.

★“Undue Process: Persecution and Punishment in Autocratic Courts”: U-M Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies. Talk by College of William & Mary government and data science professor Fiona Shen-Bayh. 4–5:30 p.m., for URL preregister at myumi.ch/wloB7. Free. WeiserCenter@umich.edu.

★Rota: Skazat! Poetry Series. Reading by this local poet, author of the 2020 collection *Giveth and Taketh* that addresses his own experience and political theology as a Jewish person in the Trump era, along with other topics. Preceded by an open mic. 7–8:30 p.m., for URL preregister at Facebook.com/Skazat. Free. 223–3165.

“The Journey”: Ann Arbor Summer Festival. Feb. 23–28. Renowned Scottish mentalist and storyteller Scott Silven hosts an evening of mesmerizing illusions and sounds, interspersed with tales live from his home in rural Scotland. Silven’s shows

are known for their sophistication, intelligence, and immersiveness. 7 p.m.(Tues. & Thurs.), 8:30 p.m.(Tues.–Thurs.), 7:30 p.m.(Fri.–Sun.), 9 p.m.(Fri. & Sat.), and 5 p.m.(Sun. only); no late entry. For URL & tickets (\$51 per person per device), see tickets.a2sf.org. 994–5999.

24 WEDNESDAY

★“Sustainability Forum: Forestry & Green Infrastructure”: City of Ann Arbor Office of Sustainability and Innovations. Panelists from various organizations TBA discuss the impact of trees and other elements of green infrastructure. Time TBA, for updates see a2gov.org/sustainability. Free. [ZWaasSmith@a2gov.org](mailto>ZWaasSmith@a2gov.org).

★James Ehnes and Orion Weiss: University Musical Society Digital Presentation. See 14 Sunday. All day.

★“The Feeling of History: Islam, Romanticism, and Andalusia”: U-M Frankel Center for Judaic Studies. UC Berkeley anthropology professor Charles Hirschkind discusses his new book with University of London anthropology professor Flora Hastings. 12:30–1:30 p.m., for URL preregister at bit.ly/feelingofhistory. Free. JudaicStudies@umich.edu.

★“Seasonals & Bonsai Display”: Ann Arbor Bonsai Society. U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens collections specialist Carmen Leskoviansky discusses bonsai care in all seasons and the aesthetics of display. 7 p.m., for URL see AnnArborBonsaiSociety.org/event/february-meeting-virtual. Free. aaBonsaiSociety@gmail.com.

★“An Evening of Poetry and Written Word”: Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room. Reading by 2 poets based in North Carolina. Dannyne Romine Powell writes yearning, often prayerful, nuanced poems about close relationships. Patricia Hooper, a U-M grad with 5 Hopwood awards, has a new collection called *Wild Persistence* which explores moments when human and natural worlds intersect. Followed by a poetry and short fiction open mic. 7–8:45 p.m., for meeting URL [cwPoetryCircle@gmail.com](mailto:email cwPoetryCircle@gmail.com). Free.

“The Journey”: Ann Arbor Summer Festival. See 23 Tuesday. 8 p.m.

25 THURSDAY

★Jericho Brown: U-M English Department Zell Visiting Writers Series. Poetry reading by this Emory University (Atlanta) creative writing program director whose latest collection, the Pulitzer-winning *The Tradition*, questions why and how Americans have become accustomed to terror. Brown invented the “duplex,” a 14-line poem of staggered couplets that’s part pantomime, part sonnet, and part ghazal, linking phrases and images and repeating words. 5–6:30 p.m., online at tinyurl.com/ZellWriters. Free. 764–6330.

★“Louis Lessons”: Kerrystown Concert House Live @ The 415. Lecture-concert by popular local pianist Louis Nagel, a retired U-M music professor. 5:30 p.m., online at KerrystownConcertHouse.com. Free, donations accepted.

“Annual Save a Heart”: C.S. Mott Children’s Hospital. A virtual benefit for Mott Congenital Heart Center featuring patient stories, entertainment TBA, and an auction. 7 p.m., for URL preregister at umSaveAHeart.med.umich.edu/virtual-event. Tickets TBA. umchc-events@med.umich.edu

“The Journey”: Ann Arbor Summer Festival. See 23 Tuesday. 7 & 8:30 p.m.

26 FRIDAY

“The Many Dimensions of Chicago”: U-M Osler Lifelong Learning Institute Out Of Town. Chicago-based architect Susan Turner leads a virtual walking tour of downtown Chicago and discusses the city’s history. 3–4:30 p.m., for URL email OLLI.info@umich.org. \$35 (members, \$10); \$25 annual membership fee. 998–9351.

“Wine Tasting: Wines of France”: Zingerman’s Cornman Farms. Little Guy Wine Company (Highland Park) reps lead a virtual tasting of different wines TBA, available for curbside pickup at Cornman Farms, 8540 Island Lake Road, Dexter. 5:30 p.m., for URL preregister at Shop.ZingermansCornmanFarms.com. Price TBA.

“Artini 2021: Cocktail Competition and Fundraiser”: Ann Arbor Art Center. All age 21 & over invited to a virtual toast to kick off this annual martini event. Ticket includes 4 different canned cocktails with garnishes (8 pours total) inspired by A2AC’s recent mural project, along with a tasting guide. Also, from Feb. 26–Mar. 5, various discussions and contests TBA. 7 p.m., for URL preregister at bit.ly/artini2021; curbside pickup at 117 W. Liberty. \$125. 994–8004.

Zach Martina: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Feb. 26 & 27. Local comic known for his fast-talking, enthusiastic style and his love of the Detroit Lions, his two daughters, and more. Masks required, except when eating or drinking. 7:30 and 10 p.m., 212 S. Fourth Ave. Tickets \$15 in advance, \$17 at the door (capacity reduced to 20%). aaComedy.com, 996–9080.

“The Journey”: Ann Arbor Summer Festival. See 23 Tuesday. 5 & 7 p.m.

27 SATURDAY

★“Groove”: Ann Arbor Public Schools Community Rec. & Ed. Local psychologist Hsiao-Wen Lo leads an hour-long program for adults that combines music with simple movements. Suitable for age 14 & up. 9 a.m., for URL preregister at bit.ly/recedgroove. 994–2300.

★“Heckuva Hike”: Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission. Naturalist Kelsey Dehring leads a 3.5-mile hike. Bring a mask and water. 10 a.m., Rolling Hills County Park, 7660 Stony Creek Rd, Ypsilanti. Free. Capacity limited; preregistration required by emailing dehringk@washtenaw.org.

★“Education and Black History”: U-M Turner African American Services Council Systematic Racism Lecture Series. Talk by speaker(s) TBA. 1–3 p.m., for URL call 998–9353 or email twsp.info@umich.edu. Free.

“Cook Like a Chef ... Eat Like a King”: Ypsilanti Meals on Wheels Benefit. Zingerman’s chef Kieron Hales demonstrates via Zoom how to make a 3-course vegetarian meal, highlighted by fresh mozzarella made from cheese curds and a gnocchi entrée. Participants are encouraged to follow along at home using ingredients available for curbside pickup and delivery. 6–8 p.m., for URL [\\$150, includes food for 2 at curbside \(for delivery, additional \\$15\)](http://preregister at a2tix.com). 217–4770, giving@ymow.org.

Pan-African Youth Orchestra: Riverfolk Music and Arts Organization Blacksmith Shop Concerts. Performance by this acclaimed ensemble, founded in Ghana, whose repertoire features works by its creator and director Nana Danso Abiam. 7:30 p.m., for URL and tickets (\$0–\$100 sliding scale), see crowdcast.io/e/blacksmith-shop-concerts-9. RiverfolkMusicAndArts@gmail.com

Zach Martina: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 26 Friday. 7:30 & 10 p.m.

“The Journey”: Ann Arbor Summer Festival. See 23 Tuesday. 7:30 & 9 p.m.

“4 Genres”: Theatre Nova. Carla Milarch directs a livestream production of American screenwriter Ron Riekki’s 20-minute comedy about 4 people, communicating with each other by way of Zoom, each stuck in a different film genre—musical, documentary, slapstick, and horror. 8 p.m., online at TheatreNova.org. Tickets \$10 per person (for a series of 4 monthly plays Jan.–Apr., \$30 per person); ticketholders receive recorded versions only if they miss the show. a2TheatreNova@gmail.com.

★The RFD Boys: The Ark Family Room Series. Authentic bluegrass by these longtime local favorites who have appeared in numerous festivals and on the cover of *Bluegrass Unlimited* magazine. Their shows blend top-notch musicianship with funny between-songs dialogue. They have a new guitarist-mandolinist, Dan Roehrig. 8 p.m., online at Facebook.com/TheArkAnnArbor. Free, donations appreciated. 761–1451.

Holly Near: The Ark Livestream Series. Rare club appearance by this veteran feminist singer-songwriter, a longtime Ark favorite who sings in a rich, controlled soprano and with a commanding presence that recalls Joan Baez at her peak. Her feminism is the cornerstone of a wide-ranging social and political intelligence, and her provocative lyrics also usually display an engagingly unpredictable humor. 9 p.m., for URL and tickets (price TBA), see TheArk.org.

28 SUNDAY

★“African Americans in Michigan”: Genealogical Society of Washtenaw County Monthly Meeting. Talk by Oakland University African American history professor De Witt S. Dykes Jr. Followed at 3:15 p.m. by “The U-M Clements and Bentley Library Collections,” a talk by development directors Angela Oonk (Clements) and Ceci Riecker (Bentley). 1:30 p.m., for URL Info@WashtenawGenealogy.org. Free. WashtenawGenealogy.org.

★Book of the Month Club: Vault of Midnight. All invited to discuss *Twins*, Varian Johnson’s new middle grade graphic novel illustrated by Shannon Wright. 2 p.m., online at Instagram.com/VaultOfMidnight. 998–1413.

★Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild. All invited to listen to guild members swap stories or bring their own to tell. 2–4 p.m., for URL preregister at bit.ly/storytellersguild. Free.

“The Journey”: Ann Arbor Summer Festival. See 23 Tuesday. 5 & 7 p.m.

★George Winston: The Ark Family Room Series. Solo acoustic concert by this Grammy-winning pianist. He is best known for the soothingly melodic, impressionistic compositions heard on his Windham Hill recordings, but Winston is also an accomplished stride and R&B player. His live shows usually draw on both sides of his musical personality. 8 p.m., for URL see Facebook.com/TheArkAnnArbor. Free, donations appreciated. 761–1451.

Memorials



CHARLES ROBERT REINHART

Charles "Chuck" Robert Reinhart, long-time and well-known resident of Ann Arbor, MI, late of Grand Rapids, passed away peacefully on Sunday, January 3, 2021, at the impressive age of 96. Chuck grew up in the Dearborn area and in 1943, after his freshman year at Michigan State, he was drafted into the Navy and served in WWII on Bainbridge Island, Washington, where he met Betty Jean Armstrong who was to become his wife of 40 years and mother to their four daughters. After the war and graduating from MSU, he joined Stouffer Corp. in Detroit and Cleveland. In 1951 Chuck purchased The Parrot, a beloved Ann Arbor restaurant on State Street. After selling The Parrot, he entered the real estate business, partnering with Dick Caldwell and forming the Caldwell and Reinhart Co., that became an iconic fixture in the Ann Arbor real estate market as the Charles Reinhart Company. Chuck was involved in many community activities, including serving as President of the Ann Arbor Board of Realtors, the Ann Arbor Chamber of Commerce, Barton Hills Country Club and was active in the Ann Arbor Community Foundation, First of America Bank's advisory board, Civic Theatre, the Ann Arbor City Planning Commission, the First Presbyterian Church, and Glacier Hills Retirement Village. Chuck was preceded in death by his first wife, Betty Armstrong in 1982; by his second wife, Betty Bunting in 2015; and by granddaughter Megan Balzhiser. He will be sadly missed by his four daughters: Leslie (John) Shape, Janet (Steve) Brown, Peggy (Gary) Balzhiser and Sally (John) Malnor; two stepdaughters: Becky Rice and Ann (Les) Behrens-Sha; eight grandchildren: Kelly (William) Wade, Andrew (Tamara) Shape, Katie (John) Swords, Michael (Tami) Brown, Lindsey (Greg) Heath, Andrew Malnor, Jeffrey (Tara) Malnor and Molly Malnor; and by 11 great grandchildren. Throughout his life, Chuck participated in numerous recreational activities playing tennis, golf, and bridge; he loved watching years of Michigan football and basketball; he enjoyed traveling to Sanibel and around the world; and especially enjoyed having dinners with friends at Knights. As evidenced by his working until he was 96, his greatest joys were his friends, family, his company and the people around him. Chuck's totally positive outlook on life was an inspiration to all he came in contact with. The family will hold a private memorial service at later date.

In lieu of flowers a charitable donation in Chuck's name may be made to Food Gatherers at foodgatherers.org.



Share a memorial tribute in the Ann Arbor Observer

Text only or include a photo.

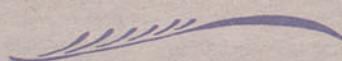
Rates are \$7 per line, or fraction of a line, per insertion
(six line minimum).

\$200 per photo up to 1.75 inches wide by 2 inches high.

Memorials will run in the next open issue.

Email: classifieds@aaobserver.com

Please include your name and contact information.



CATHERINE MYLENE (PETERSON) THURSBY

On December 23rd 2020, Catherine Mylene (Peterson) Thursby passed away from complications during surgery. She was born in Ann Arbor, Michigan on May 18, 1965. She was 55 years old.

Anyone who knew Catherine knew not only what a wonderful Mom she was but what an amazing person she was too. Selfless and genuine, it didn't matter if you'd known her for years or only in passing, she left an imprint on your heart. She always listened and never passed judgment. There are too few words to describe the kind of light she was. It took incredible strength and determination to shoulder the struggles of life while balancing a family, a home and her own business. Somehow Catherine did all that and more.

Catherine was the owner and creative force behind Red Shoes in Ann Arbor, Michigan, the beloved business that she started in 2003. She was a true artist who was beyond talented and created one-of-a-kind pieces all while curating an absolutely lovely and serene shop for all to enjoy. The shop itself was a work of art. Red Shoes meant the world to her as did her family and all of the people who supported her and watched her dream come to life. Always keeping an open heart and mind, Catherine's love for others could surely stretch for miles and miles. Catherine also cherished her cozy home, her beautiful garden, her pets and all of the creatures who called her pond and yard home.

She is survived by her children, Fiona and Jackson; her sister, Elizabeth Duran; her father and stepmother, John and Thais Peterson; and her dear friend and former husband, Ian Thursby. She was preceded in death by her adored mother, Lydia Peterson. This is an unfathomable loss and she will be widely missed by all those who loved her and appreciated the beautiful human she was.



Classifieds

Personals

The Classifieds deadline for the March issue is February 10.

Ann Arbor Single Man attempting to locate Ann Arbor 68-year-old single woman first name "Cathy," with doctorate degree. Saw her profile and photo on "Our Time" website preview page. In attempting to communicate with "Cathy" through the website, I encountered continuous log in problems and finally gave up. Thus this ad. I am a successful, in my mid-eighties, working professional in my field and will provide photos and personal profile to Cathy if she is okay with that. I want to express my thanks to Cathy in advance or to anyone who can help. Reply to: rgrg1394jeff@gmail.com

For Sale

The Classifieds deadline for the March issue is February 10.

LifeScienceAudio.com
An Ann Arbor-based curated audiobook portal focusing on the grandeur of life.
www.LifeScienceAudio.com

Silver Spoon Antiques
42 N. Huron St., Ypsilanti
Lots of fresh items for your Valentine. We have thousands of pieces of vintage jewelry as well as purses, hats, gloves, and vintage clothing. We buy.
(734) 249-3419

Wanted

The Classifieds deadline for the March issue is February 10.

Wanted: Editor for short autobiography. Payment to be negotiated. Please contact C L Cousins at (810) 222-9072.

Miscellaneous

The Classifieds deadline for the March issue is February 10.

I SPY CONTEST
Can you identify the glimpse of Ann Arbor in the photo on p. 51? If you can, you could win a \$25 check made out to any business advertising in this issue. One winner will be drawn from all correct entries received by noon, February 10. No phone entries, please. Send your answer to: I Spy, Ann Arbor Observer, 2390 Winewood, AA 48103. Fax: 769-3375; email: backpage@aaobserver.com (put I Spy in the subject line).

FAKE AD CONTEST
Can you find the fake ad in this issue of the Observer? If you can, you could win a \$25 gift certificate to any business advertising in this issue! One winner will be drawn from all correct entries received by noon, February 10. No phone entries, please. Send your answer to: backpage@aaobserver.com or write to: 2390 Winewood, AA 48103.

Services

The Classifieds deadline for the March issue is February 10.

Home

The Classifieds deadline for the March issue is February 10.

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Outdoors

The Classifieds deadline for the March issue is February 10.



Place Your Classified Ad Today!

To advertise, email, fax, or mail your ad info to the address below by the 10th of the month. Rates are \$7 per line, or fraction of a line, per insertion (two line minimum). Ads will run in the next open issue.

Mail, email, or fax your ad to:
Ann Arbor Observer Classifieds
2390 Winewood Ave., Ann Arbor, MI 48103
Office: (734) 769-3175, Fax: (734) 769-3375
Email: classifieds@aaobserver.com

Please include your name and contact information.
We reserve the right to reject, cancel, or modify any advertising and to determine the classification of individual ads.

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Announce an engagement, wedding, birthday, or any special occasion. Text only or include a photo.
Call for more information: (734) 769-3175

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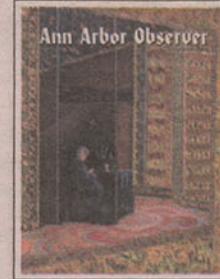
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Thanks for reading the Observer.

Sincerely,

Patricia M. Garcia
Publisher



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215 N 5th Avenue, Ann Arbor—A luxury oasis in the heart of Ann Arbor's historic Kerrytown neighborhood with plenty of privacy. Quality built in 2013, this exquisite essentially new home is the epitome of Northern European design & sophistication. Consistent use of French limestone for main level floors and stairs, hardwood for upper level floors, black granite for counters, baseboards, fireplace surround, showers & patios, stainless steel & bronze finishes & reclaimed barn wood combine perfectly to create a luxurious mixture of warmth & minimalism. 9' ceilings & 8' doors throughout. 3 walls of windows bathe the living room in light. Gourmet kitchen w/Viking appliances, large island w/seating & walk-in pantry. Open dining area w/3 walls of windows & Swarovski crystal chandelier. 2nd floor primary suite w/luxury bath, walk-in closet & separate vanity/desk area. Inviting 2nd bedroom suite w/sleek bath & walk-in closet. Upper level also includes 2 open study areas w/Kerrytown views, laundry & mechanical areas. Home set nicely on 5th Ave w/rear alley entry into heated 2.5 car attached garage. Private walk from 5th Ave to rear of home leads to covered formal entry & 2nd casual entry on side w/lush hedges, city greenery & privacy fence. Incomparable! MLS#3278342. \$2,450,000.

For a complete list of features please visit: www.elizabethbrien.com

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LUXURY HOMES

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4261 Loon Ln, West Ann Arbor

Model under construction! Craftsman ranch style homes in A.I.R. Housing community with emphasis on high-end and amenity-focused. Approx. 2,100 sq. ft., gourmet kitchens, covered front porch. \$590,000. Brynn Stelter 734-277-2531. #3270157



2575 Blueberry Ln, Ann Arbor

Great location! Quad level 5 bedroom, 3.5 bath on 1.16 acre lot with mature landscaping. Many updates, partially finished basement, sprinkler system, porch, paver patio. Walk to Skyline. \$665,000. Tammi Ebenhoeh 734-276-4663. #3276825



4850 Hidden Brook Ln, North Ann Arbor

Private 2.2 acre setting surrounded by towering trees, backing to creek. Impressive 2-story home is a fresh departure from cookie-cutter and beckons those who embrace Mother Nature's finest! \$785,000. Nancy Bishop 734-761-3040. #3276706



208 W William St, Downtown Ann Arbor

Fabulous end unit town-home backing to proposed Ann Arbor greenbelt park. 3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, attached 2-car garage, Brazilian hardwood floors, many updates. Professionally landscaped. \$875,000. Ed Ridha 734-645-3110. #3273332



8624 Fox Hill Ct, Dexter

Wow-factor included in this 5 bedroom, 4.5 bath on 4.64 acres. Finest finishes, walls of windows, open-concept, soaring ceilings, finished walkout. Outdoor oasis with pool, tennis court and more. \$1,125,000. Nancy Bishop 734-761-3040. #3277061



7905 Grand Street, Grandview Commons

New construction luxury condo steps to downtown Dexter! 2-5 bedrooms, 3.5 baths with loft and den. Gorgeous island kitchen, 2nd floor laundry, mudroom. 2-car garage. Many upgrades! \$615,000. Jessica Singer 734-780-5526. #3263293



727 Dornoch Dr, Polo Fields

Pristine 4 bed, 4.5 bath brick colonial on private lot backing to pond. Unique floor plan, great for working from home. Marble entry, custom hardwood on 1st floor. Great location, township taxes. \$699,900. Julie Picknell 734-395-8383. #3278298



50537 Silverton Dr, Canton

Stunning 5 bedroom, 4 bath representing the best in design and craftsmanship. 2-story foyer, well appointed kitchen, 2-story family room, study, dream master bedroom. Great location! \$795,000. Kim Peoples 734-646-4012. #3278248



4158 Glen Eagles Ct, Ann Arbor

Frank Lloyd Wright inspired custom 4 bedroom, 5 full, 1 half bath, built in 2018. Hickory floors, abundant windows, gourmet kitchen. 1,446 sq. ft. in finished walkout. On premium site. \$950,000. Pat Durston 734-260-9247. #3275649



3212 W Dobson Pl, Northeast Ann Arbor

This stunning home in The Woodlands on a spectacular wooded lot boasts 4,200 sq. plus a beautiful finished lower level. Magnificent views will take your breath away! \$1,150,000. Matt Miller 734-476-4869. #3265530



1802 Judd Rd, Saline Schools

Rare opportunity! Park-like 4.73 acres with 3,892 sq. ft., 4 bedroom, 3.5 bathroom home with all the amenities! Gourmet kitchen, stone fireplace, deck. Two garages, 32x40 pole barn. \$625,000. Elke VanDyke 734-635-3150. #3276963



1293 N Portage Rd, Jackson

Private 3,448 sq. ft. plus finished walkout. New gourmet kitchen, roof, furnaces, A/C and more! Located on 18 acres with barn, pond, salt water in-ground pool, spa, covered patio. 3-car garage. \$725,000. Kerene Morrissey 517-937-2257. #3277698



8950 Greenwood Rd, Grass Lake

Tastefully updated, classic farmhouse on 148 rolling acres with pond, creek and 4 barns in Grass Lake Schools. 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths. Newly remodeled in-law suite. Wrap-around porch. \$795,000. Gregory Million 517-290-6730. #3271906



2555 Hickory Rd, NW Ann Arbor

Stately custom home near the Huron River on lush 1-plus acre. 5 bedrooms, 5.5 baths, chef's kitchen, walls of windows, 1st floor owner's suite, finished lower level. Delightful backyard. \$965,000. Elizabeth Brien 734-645-4444. #3278177



213 W Kingsley St, Downtown Ann Arbor

Sophisticated one level condo next to Fish Park in Kerrytown with private entrance, elevator and garage. Exceptionally designed open floor plan, 10 ft. ceilings, floor to ceiling glass and terrace. \$1,175,000. Elizabeth Brien 734-645-4444. #3278380



1962 Boulder Dr, Ann Arbor

Desirable Huron Chase condo with 1st floor primary suite and den/study. Cathedral ceilings on 1st floor, dining room overlooks deck and mature landscaping. Finished lower level with 2 bedrooms. \$640,000. Carolyn Lepard 734-417-2900. #3277535



13591 Macon Rd, Saline

Stunning, custom log home on 35 wooded acres with in-ground pool, pasture, shed, outbuilding and more. Well maintained, chef's kitchen, wood floors, walkout lower level. Township taxes. \$699,900. Tammi Ebenhoeh 734-276-4663. #3276111



1055 Young Pl, Ann Arbor

Rare opportunity to own an Oslund condominium! 3 beds, 3.5 baths, crisp white kitchen, high ceilings, gas fireplace, study, generous owner's suite with private view of gardens and patio. \$799,900. Maura Rains 313-717-7788. #3278214



3035 Foxcroft St, Ann Arbor

Picture perfect 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath colonial. Cherry kitchen, large family room, living room and formal dining. Library and office space. Finished lower level, 2.5-car garage. Don't miss! \$998,000. Kim Peoples 734-646-4012. #3277312



2211 Devonshire Rd, Ann Arbor Hills

A rare find! 3,024 sq. ft., 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath built in 1929 on .53 acre. Includes adjacent .58 acre lot with tennis court. Lovely period charm enhanced with updates and additions. \$1,399,000. Jean Wedemeyer 734-604-2523. #3276922



1210 Wells St, Ann Arbor

Classic Burns Park home with original woodwork and refinished hardwood floors throughout. French doors open to formal living. Charming front porch, fenced backyard with deck and shed. \$660,000. Patti Eddy 734-646-2705. #3275876



3 Songbird Spring Ct, Scio Township

Design your dream home with Jim Binder Building at one of these incredible lots located on a private cul-de-sac setting that is just minutes to downtown Ann Arbor or Dexter. \$775,000-\$1,100,000. \$775,000. Brent Flewelling 734-646-4263. #3262750



505 E Huron St. #307, Sloan Plaza

One of the coolest condos in Ann Arbor! 3 covered parking spaces, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 fireplaces, spacious office area. Generous deck complete with patio furniture and fire pit! \$850,000. Nancy Bishop 734-761-3040. #3277270



480 Hillspur Rd, Ann Arbor

Barton Hills stand out showpiece that seamlessly blends nature into its uniquely special design with walls of windows, vaulted ceilings, skylights, walkout lower level, 2-tiered deck and more. \$1,075,000. Nancy Bishop 734-761-3040. #3260316



211 N 5th Ave, Downtown Ann Arbor

Private oasis in the heart of Kerrytown! Built in 2013, this sophisticated home boasts a luxurious mixture of warmth and minimalism making this home incomparable in quality and location. \$2,450,000. Elizabeth Brien 734-645-4444. #3278342

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734-769-3800

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CENTENNIAL PARK - This 4-bedroom, 4-bath, two $\frac{1}{2}$ -bath former builder's model home is loaded with custom features in one of Saline school's most popular neighborhoods. This home rests on one of the largest lots in the neighborhood with extensive landscaping, paver patio, and huge backyard. The interior highlights include two-story family room, cherry kitchen, sunroom, private den, luxury first floor master suite, bonus room, and finished basement. \$739,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



SAGINAW HILLS - Custom-built 4-bedroom, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -bath home on a dramatic 1.6-acre setting just minutes from downtown Ann Arbor in Scio Township. You will love the hilltop setting with panoramic views, extensive landscaping, great deck, and private backyard. The home features a 4-car garage, remodeled maple kitchen, open concept family room, incredible 4-season sunroom, luxury master suite, and flex-use bonus room area. \$684,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



TRAVIS POINTE - Stunning 5-bedroom, 4-bath, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -bath custom-built home with view of the #4 Hole at Travis Pointe Country Club. You will love this setting at the end of a quiet cul-de-sac with mature trees, large backyard, and paver patio. The interior is stunning. Highlights include two-story family room with fireplace, gourmet kitchen with cherry cabinets and prof grade appliances, first den with cherry built-ins, luxury primary bedroom suite with two walk-in closets, and finished lower level. You will love this home. \$1,095,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



WALNUT RIDGE - Gorgeous 4-bedroom, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ -bath custom-built home by Toll Brothers in one of Ann Arbor's most desired neighborhoods. Very convenient location just minutes to schools, shopping, and UM campus. The house is fantastic with many updates and perfect decor. Features include large backyard, deck and screened porch, cherry kitchen with granite and stainless-steel appliances, two-story family room, luxury master suite, and walkout basement. \$899,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



SALINE - Custom-built 5-bedroom, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ -bath all brick home on a peaceful acre lot in one of Saline's best neighborhoods. This home is incredible. The exterior features extensive landscaping, cover patio, deck, and huge backyard. The interior loaded. Highlights include great room with fireplace, maple kitchen with granite, paneled den, luxury first floor master suite with newer spa-like bath, bonus room, and incredible finished basement. \$799,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



DEXTER - This 5-bedroom, 4-bath architectural gem is simply stunning. Custom-built with the highest standards of materials and craftsmanship you will be amazed by the quality and space of this truly one-of-a-kind home. This home rests on a private 2.5-acre lot with complete privacy and surrounded by nature. Interior highlights include two-story great room, open concept kitchen with quartz countertops, luxury master suite with walk-in closet and spa-like bath, and finished walkout basement. \$769,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



HERITAGE FALLS CONDO - Stunning 3-bedroom, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -bath ranch condo in one of the most convenient locations you'll see. You will love living walking distance to restaurants and shopping and just minutes to I-94 and UM campus. The interior is loaded with quality finishes. Features include great room with fireplace, cherry kitchen with granite and stainless-steel appliances, sunroom, luxury first floor master suite, 2nd bedroom suite, and 3rd bedroom that makes a perfect den. \$489,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



NEW LISTING - SILVERLEAF - Stunning 5-bedroom, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ -bath custom-built home that has been completely updated with the most current décor you will find. The setting is fantastic featuring a fenced backyard with brick paver patio and firepit. The interior is gorgeous! Highlights include two-story family room with fireplace, open concept kitchen with granite and stainless-steel appliances, dream master suite with spa-like bath, and professionally finished basement with large rec room, bar, bedroom, and full bath. \$479,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



NEW LISTING - LAKE FOREST - Very sharp 3-bedroom, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -bath home on a gorgeous setting adjacent to a common area in one of Ann Arbor's most desired neighborhoods. The exterior setting is wonderful with extensive landscaping and two-tier brick paver patio. Interior highlights include all hardwood floors on the main level, welcoming living room with vaulted ceiling, remodeled kitchen with white cabinets, granite counters, and stainless-steel appliances, open concept family room with stacked stone fireplace, dream master suite, two oversized bedrooms and full bath. \$479,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



NEW LISTING - STONEBRIDGE - This detached 4-bedroom, 3-bath patio home in Stonebridge has been perfectly updated and has a wonderful pond view. You will love living in this upscale community just minutes to shopping, restaurants, and I-94. The setting is fantastic, enjoy the pond view from your oversized deck. The interior features a great room with vaulted ceiling and fireplace, open concept kitchen, first floor master suite, 2nd level with two bedrooms and connecting full bath, and a finished basement with rec room, bedroom, and bath. \$419,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



SALINE - This charming 4-bedroom, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ -bath turn-of-the-century two-story has been beautifully restored and is just blocks from the heart of downtown Saline. You will love being walking distance to shopping and restaurants from this historic home. Features include hardwood flooring and stained original trim throughout, spacious living room, formal dining room, family room, remodeled kitchen with great combination of original and modern touches, great bedroom space upstairs, and remodeled bath. \$319,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



BRECON VILLAGE - This 2-bedroom, 2-bath ranch style condo is in one of the area's only 55 and over senior living complexes. This condo features the perfect blend of independent living with available services close by. The setting of the unit is fantastic with pond views and a short walk to the clubhouse. The interior features a comfortable living room, formal dining space, nice kitchen with eat-in area, primary bedroom with attached bath and walk-in closet, and 2nd bedroom and bath. \$279,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



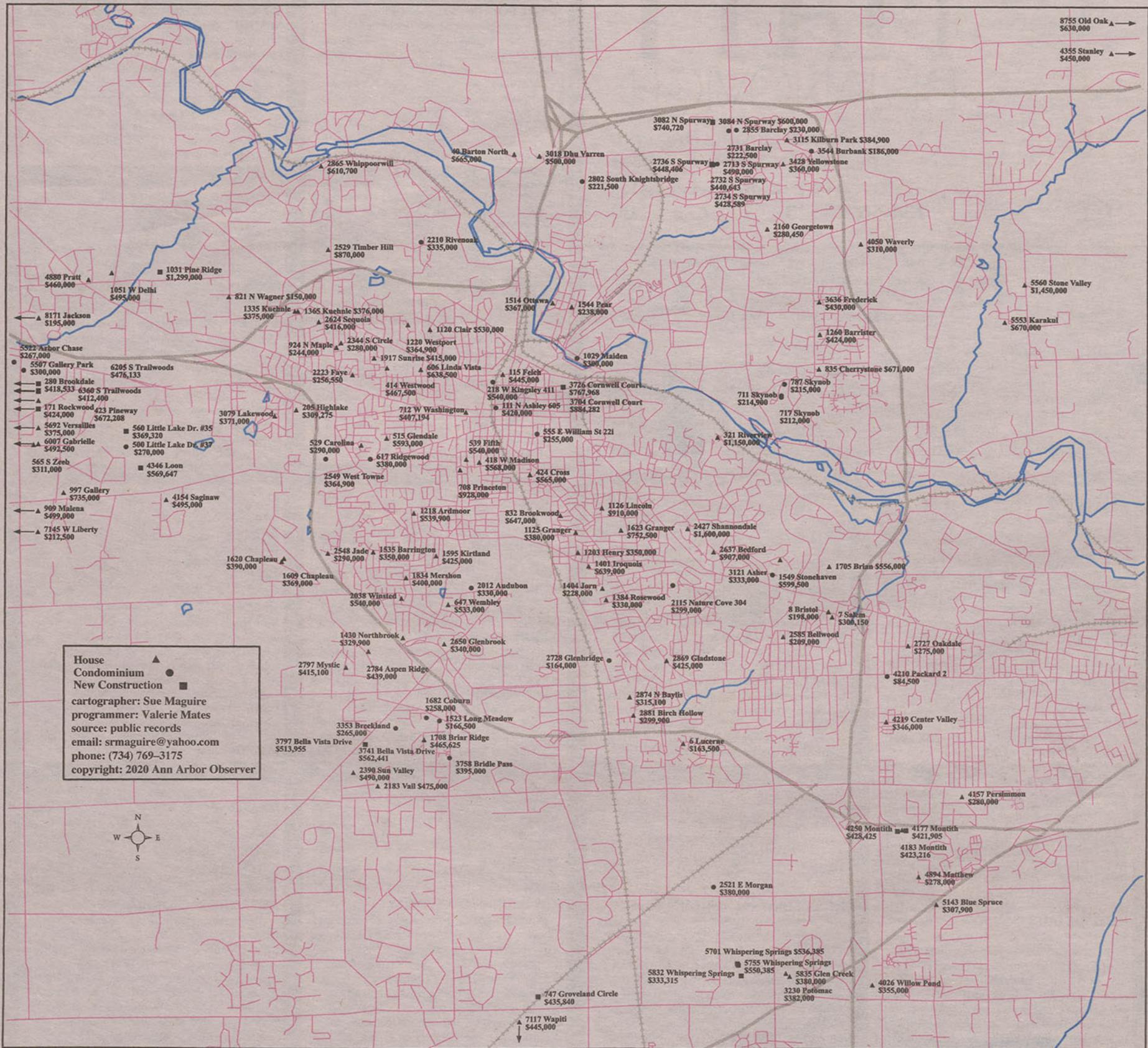
NEW LISTING - LINCOLN SCHOOLS - Very sharp 3-bedroom, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -bath home in Raymond Meadows. This home has been nicely cared for and updated with fresh paint and new carpet. This quiet neighborhood is conveniently located just minutes to schools, shopping, and I-94. You will love the setting with extensive landscaping and large deck. The interior features all-wood flooring on the main level, a dramatic living room with vaulted ceiling and fireplace, open kitchen, first floor master suite, and 2nd floor with 2 bedrooms and a bath. \$259,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



ANN ARBOR CONDO - Very sharp 3-bedroom, 3-bath ranch condo in Walden Village. You will love this very convenient location on Ann Arbor's west side just minutes to shopping and UM Central campus. The unit has a great setting with views of Dicken Woods from your private patio. The interior features fresh paint and new flooring throughout. Features include large living room with lots of natural light, spacious kitchen, nice master suite with attached bath, 2 additional bedrooms, and a partially finished basement. \$245,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

DECEMBER 2020

HOME SALES



Only thirty-nine existing single-family homes in the Ann Arbor Public Schools district were entered into the Ann Arbor Area Board of Realtors' Multiple Listing Service in December. By mid-January, just eight were still available.

With home buyers chasing a shrinking inventory, the catastrophic real estate crash of 2007 seems all but forgotten. But not so long ago, the problem was not too little supply, but too much.

Touchstone Co-Housing, in Scio Township, was the third in a series of communities on the far west side of the school district. It had been approved for forty-six units, and by 2006, thirty-four had neared completion. Developer Bill Kinley says in retrospect,

they probably should have held off on completing the last of those.

When the recession hit, Kinley says, the "faucet shut off." As lenders teetered on the edge of insolvency, they stopped making mortgages. Even buyers who were working could no longer get financing. Several units needed to be filled by renters; it took until "roughly 2010," says Kinley, to sell the last of them. But when Kinley sold his company, Phoenix Contractors, to an employee, he retained the building site where the last twelve condominiums were to be built.

As Praxis Properties, Kinley and his son Tyler began construction on the final dozen homes in the summer of 2019. Using buyer feedback, the site was redesigned and floor-plans improved. The new units are located

in four buildings: two with two units, and two with four. All are situated to give the units windows on three sides of the building. Upper-level floorplans all have balconies, as well as 9' ceilings that rise to 12' in an 800-square-foot loft space. Four of the lower-level homes have south-facing walkout basements.

One of those four makes this month's map. 560 Little Lake Dr., is a 1,008-square-foot, two-bedroom, two-bath home that features deluxe painted-maple cabinets, a wet bar in the basement, egress windows, composite deck, and a separate garage. It sold for \$369,320.

Sometimes odd numbers in sales prices can indicate a "bidding war," when the winner's precision amount used in an esca-

lation clause is reflected in the final price. But numbers as specific as this one usually indicate a new build. Most builders have set prices, and any negotiations taking place will typically apply to other aspects of the sale.

A resale in the neighboring Great Oaks complex is also on this month's map. Almost twenty years older and somewhat smaller at 909 square feet, it has only one bath and an unfinished basement. It sold for \$270,000.

All three co-housing neighborhoods are built on a sense of community, governing themselves by consensus and offering opportunities to gather for shared meals and events.

—Sue Maguire

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CLOSED SALES 2020

1390 Folkstone	218 W. Kingsley #305	4875 Whitman Circle	1882 Fulmer
951 Jennings	1725 Weatherstone	4621 Old Oak	318 W. Liberty #101
1301 Henry	653 N. Fifth	7304 Cypress Pointe	218 W. Kingsley #211
1800 Hatcher Crescent	8354 Crab Apple	5435 Urbana	767 Peninsula
3240 Lockridge	0 Oak Hollow	2912 Renfrew	507 Heritage
3103 Andora Dr.	1510 S. Harris	5289 Dixboro Farms	3072 Spurway
5317 Betheny Circle	5906 Versailles	477 W. Main	16771 Cavanaugh Lake
2235 S Huron Pkwy	739 Gott	154 Westover	6153 Mast
3037 Barclay	2315 Packard #106A	218 W. Kingsley #405	1202 Meadowbrook
300 Briarcrest	218 W. Kingsley #504	2826 Barclay	2100 Shoreline
118 Oakbrook	2942 Hunley	3365 Breckland	2380 Gale
1416 Duncan	2726 Maitland	430 S. First	2871 Fairway
2709 Spurway	3332 Breckland	5454 Scott	1249 Island
495 Burr Oak	5098 Blue Spruce	4876 Whitman Circle	3412 Norwood
1314 Partridge	2480 Melvin Dr	1247 Jeffery	3412 Norwood
1544 Newport Creek	40579 Firwood	7949 Rldgeway	1015 Summerfield Glen
2709 Spurway	17050 Garden Ridge	2011 S. Grove	1126 Wines
218 W. Kingsley #308	8374 Jack Pine	293 Victoria	996 McDonald
5996 Rollingwood	3115 Fairhaven	165 Rockwood	1514 Martha
834 Faith	3108 Shadow Brook	1229 Island Drive	318 W. Liberty #101
1613 Dicken	1349 Heatherwood	1815 Independence #30C	2754 St. Regis
1417 Heatherwood	218 W. Kingsley #504	2311 Fernwood	507 Heritage
2720 Knightsbridge	417 Montgomery	778 Forest	3609 Oak Park
2259 S Main	218 W. Kingsley #201	497 Grayhawk	1942 Cambridge
322 E. Liberty #5	2321 Pittsfield	591 Trego	8647 Hemlock
3458 Richard	2744 Barclay	338 Dunhill Way	3615 Cushing Ct
218 W. Kingsley #206	218 W. Kingsley #201	3695 Bella Vista	11750 Turkey Run
2903 Knightsbridge	528 Liberty Pointe	24342 Myrtle	1505 E. Stadium
218 W. Kingsley #205	6851 Daly	218 W. Kingsley #405	28521 Terrence
2454 Midvale	3176 Otter Creek	3418 Bent Trail	134 Campolina
1544 Newport Creek	9061 Garfield	5782 Hampshire	214 W. Kingsley
834 Faith	1703 Springmill	3064 Roundtree	218 W. Kingsley #309
107 Burwyck	31024 Avondale	200 Briarcrest	218 W. Kingsley #501
2728 Glenbridge	2479 Woodview	3525 Edgewood	4305 Pine Ridge
1912 Boulder	445 Shiloh	2253 Gray Fox	2903 Knightsbridge
6100 Textile	3415 Rush Lake	8809 Lilly	1259 N. Bay Drive
6447 Oakhurst	11495 Castleton	9507 Newbury	2834 Newport
4685 Dexter Pinckney	280 Sandrock	670 Florence	3062 Spurway
1909 Linwood	2509 Liberty	1607 Dicken	3675 Cushing
8190 Winans Lake	1713 Stonebridge	2781 Walnut Ridge	1575 Weatherstone
218 W. Kingsley #305	1509 Golden	1001 Oakland	3362 Primrose
218 W. Kingsley #312	651 Liberty Pointe	4637 Sawgrass	214 W. Kingsley
218 W. Kingsley #207	1942 Lindsay	716 Dartmoor	14726 Stonehouse
3033 Newcastle	2784 Page	2758 Whispering Woods	2026 Hunters Creek
6447 Oakhurst	525 Hollis	6161 Windmill	1126 Lincoln
505 Glendale Ct	2 Shipman Circle	1083 Pine Ridge Ct	4745 Joy
39 Allen	485 Eastman	1917 Valley	1031 Pine Ridge
Oak Forest #23	3341 Creek	3035 Clovery	1220 Westport
1702 Coburn	1703 Springmill	2938 Hunley	318 N. Harris
1787 Manchester	1520 Catalina	5539 Arbor Chase	2728 Glenbridge
14413 Stofer	280 Sandrock	1644 Dicken	218 W. Kingsley #411
725 Groveland	2243 Arciero	2253 Gray Fox	1029 Maiden Lane
3624 Barry Knoll	1241 Franciscan	2419 Oltesvig	5840 Whispering Springs
2077 Prairie Dunes	409 W. Middle	13661 Cobblestone	2045 Rouse Creek
641 N. Fifth	553 Falcon	1747 Cypress Pointe	6969 Heatheridge
1050 Wall St #9C	12088 Jerusalem	339 Wilkinson	7916 Raintree
1761 Addington	327 Dogwood	1001 Oakland	6710 Robison
5455 Pinnacle	786 Greenhills	5539 Arbor Chase	3014 Ready
5111 Fox Ridge	218 W. Kingsley #208	525 Chandler	1544 Pear
1809 Covington	218 W. Kingsley #406	1229 Island Drive #101	615 N. Congress
3215 Rumsey	293 Victoria	8391 Stamford	315 High St
1714 Abbott	218 W. Kingsley #208	9090 Spencer	1682 Coburn
49672 Shire Lane	218 W. Kingsley #406	9228 White Tail	5497 Trillium
2809 Rathmore	4314 Hillside	5492 Park Grove	2903 Knightsbridge
331 Scio Village #284	3083 Promenade	1684 Warren	218 W. Kingsley #309
633 Fieldstone	3435 Huron View	1160 Gene	
610 S. Ashley #2	671 Watersedge	3594 Prospect	
218 W. Kingsley #205	1705 Thistle	316 Roseland	

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Memorials will run in the next open issue.

Email: classifieds@aaobserver.com

Please include your name and
contact information.

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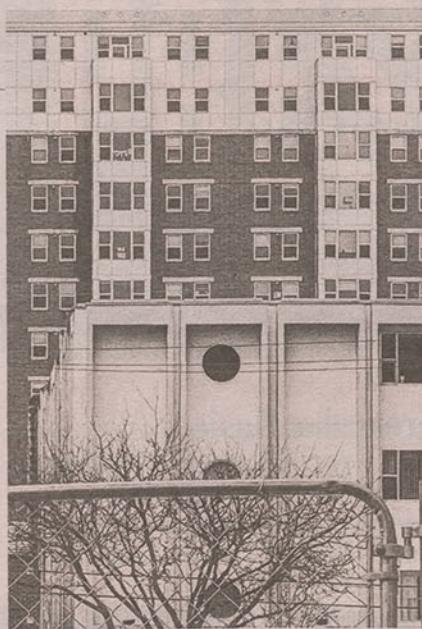
i spy

by Sally Bjork

January's I Spy "features a mural called *Drifts*, created by Ouizi," writes Ivana Tullett. "Artist Ouizi (Louise Jones) is known for her large floral mural installations," says Barb Tester. This "lovely mural with black-eyed Susans and coneflowers [is] at the corner of Washington and Ashley St.," adds Jane Hassinger. "The building was until recently the home of Three Chairs," explains Ken Koral, "but now houses an extension of Downtown Home & Garden." "I love that mural ... makes me smile every time I walk by it," writes Alice King. "So beautiful and cheerful."

Drifts is "part of the Ann Arbor Art Center's mural project," notes Janine Chey. The "2020 A2AC murals ... have really brightened up some blank spaces," adds Tester. "That area of town is becoming one of the most muralized," writes Andy Bayer, "and I love it!" Bria Reiniger recommends a self-guided tour as an "outside activity over the next few months!" (Search "Ann Arbor Art Center murals" for a map of all thirteen.)

Drifts is "my absolute favorite," says Rebecca Sweeton. Chris Dearing calls it "a piece of



New vantage point,
unobstructed

colorful happy during a stressful period in our lives." The sunny painting is "lovely," writes Jason Kahn, "especially on these cold, gray winter days!" "May 2021 be brighter for us all," adds Anne D. Toprak.

We received forty-one entries in January. Our random drawing winner is Ross Shaw, who will enjoy a \$25 gift certificate at TeaHaus. To enter this month's contest, use the image and clue above and send your answer to the address below.

—Sally Bjork



by Jay Forstner

We received 208 entries correctly identifying the Fake Ad for DeKalb County Public Schools on page 44 of the January issue.

One of our favorite responses came from Sonia Zawacki, who often includes a personal note along with her entry. "If I had written to you before January 6th I'd be in a much better mood," Zawacki wrote. "Sadly, I waited until the last minute and am still feeling much distress over recent events that took place at the U.S. Capitol that day. So I'll make this short and as-sweet-as-I-am-able under the circumstances."

"I found the Fake Ad on page 44 for the DeKalb County Public Schools for



Zoom education—with the name Brdek cleverly hidden in the end and beginning of adjoining sentences, 'be? Are DeKalb?' Had I been a newbie to the Fake Ad search, I may not have discovered this as easily (i.e., I'm on to your tricks). As I write this, I am reminded that the votes of DeKalb County, Georgia were among the last ones to be counted in the January 5th Georgia Senate run-off election, giving Ossoff and Warnock

the wins, so my gratitude lightened my mood. I'm so glad I wrote to you and got some self-therapy in the process! As always, thanks for the fun!"

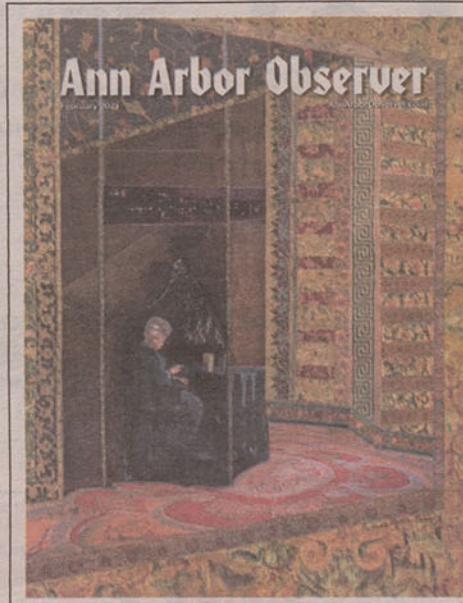
Our drawing winner was Steve Lungs. He's taking his gift certificate to Downtown Home & Garden.

—Jay Forstner

Order The Fake Ad and I Spy books at AnnArborObserver.com/books.

To enter this month's contests, send email to backpage@aaobserver.com. Mail: 2390 Winewood, Ann Arbor, MI 48103. All correct entries received by noon on February 10th will be eligible for our random drawings. Winners receive \$25 gift certificates to any business advertising in this issue.

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Patricia M. Garcia, John Hilton
and the Ann Arbor Observer staff

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THANKS!

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Thanks also to readers who responded to our request
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Congratulations to the lucky winners of our January
drawing!

The following readers won a \$25 gift certificate to their choice
of any business advertising in the Observer.

January winners:

Lynlee S. and Bette T.

If you would like to be entered in the February drawing for a \$25 gift
certificate to any business advertising in this issue, check out the
information on page 48, and submit your Observer Friend or Free
Subscription confirmation by February 10.

Thanks!
Observer Staff

Events at a Glance

Daily Events listings begin on p. 36. Films: p.
39. Galleries: p. 41. Kids: p. 40.

►Reviewed in this issue. See p. 37.

All events are virtual unless otherwise noted.

Concert Music

classical, religious, cabaret

- Sphinx Virtuosi (UMS), Jan. 29–Feb. 10
- Bolcom and Morris (KCH), Feb. 10
- James Ehnes and Orion Weiss (UMS), Feb. 14
- The Four Nations Ensemble (early music),
Feb. 14–21
- Tovah Feldshuh and Ari Axelrod (cabaret),
Feb. 21

Vernacular Music

pop, rock, jazz, & traditional

- Claudia Schmidt (jazz and folk), Feb. 3
- Darlingside (folk-rock quartet), Feb. 11
- Mark "Mr. B" Braun (boogie-woogie
pianist), Feb. 13
- Edgefest (KCH), Feb. 19
- Pan-African Youth Orchestra, Feb. 27
- Holly Near (singer-songwriter), Feb. 27
- George Winston (pianist), Feb. 28

Theater, Opera, & Dance

- *Twelfth Night* (Huron High), Feb. 5–7
- *The Tempest: Act 5* (CHS), Feb. 12
- Play reading (Penny Seats), Feb. 19
- *4 Genres* (Theatre Nova), Feb. 27

Comedy, Storytelling, & Performance Art

- StorySLAM (Michigan Radio), Feb. 1
- Comic Billy Ray Bauer (*in-person*), Feb. 5 & 6

- Comic Tracey MacDonald (*in-person*), Feb.
12 & 13

► "Not Your Mother's Fairy Tales," Feb. 17

- Mentalist and storyteller Scott Silven, Feb.
23–28

Festivals, Fairs, & Shows

- 34th Annual Storytelling Festival, Feb. 13

Lectures, Readings, & Forums

- Dancer-choreographer Cleo Parker Robinson, Feb. 10
- Poet Marcelo Hernandez Castillo, Feb. 11
- Fiction writer Joan Silber, Feb. 18 & 19
- Poets Dannye Romine Powell and Patricia Hooper (double bill), Feb. 24
- Poet Jericho Brown, Feb. 25

Family & Kids' Stuff

See *Kids 12 & Under*, p. 40, for most kids events.

- Lantern-lit ski and snowshoe (*in-person*),
every Fri.
- Storytellers Anne Rutherford and Norm Brecke, Feb. 21

Miscellaneous

- "Creature Courtship," Feb. 12
- Death Cafe, Feb. 20
- Annual C.S. Mott benefit, Feb. 25
- "Artini 2021," Feb. 26

"Only in Ann Arbor" Event of the Month

- Jazz chat with Don Chisholm (KCH), Feb. 18

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FEBRUARY 2021 EVENTS

STAY PRESENT

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Visit ums.org
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UMS digital experiences
and stay connected.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, UMS has canceled all live, in-person performances through April 2021. We will continue to offer free digital presentations and virtual experiences to keep the arts present in our lives. Please join us.



Sphinx Virtuosi: *This is America*

Digital Premiere: Fri Jan 29 at 7 pm

Available on demand through Mon Feb 8

The Sphinx Virtuosi draws inspiration from the most promising voices of today, seeking to lift the many voices within our communities. This program demonstrates Sphinx's commitment to social impact through expression. The program includes works by Michael Abels, a versatile composer of both cinema scores and symphonies; Jessie Montgomery, whose *Source Code* redefines the classical music canon; and a new work by Xavier Foley. These works, both archival and newly recorded, lift the voices of Black and brown communities through both the compositions presented and the performers on stage.

PROGRAM

Xavier Foley	Ev'ry Voice
Jessie Montgomery	<i>Source Code</i>
Antonín Dvořák	Finale from Quartet in F Major, Op. 96 ("American")
Andrea Casarrubios	Seven
Leonard Bernstein	"America" from <i>West Side Story</i>
Michael Abels	Delights and Dances

Exclusive Presenting Sponsor: Helmut F. and Candis J. Stern Endowment Fund

This digital arts adventure is made possible by ARTS MICHIGAN



Cleo Parker Robinson in Conversation

With Neil Barclay, president of the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History

Tue Feb 10 at 5:30 pm

Choreographer, dance pioneer, and visionary Cleo Parker Robinson joins her friend Neil Barclay, President and CEO of the Charles H. Wright Museum, for a wide-ranging conversation about Black identity in dance. This event is part of Cleo Parker Robinson's Digital Artist Residency with UMS.

Presented in partnership with the International Association of Blacks in Dance.

Lead Presenting Sponsors: Linh and Dug Song



James Ehnes, violin | Orion Weiss, piano

Digital Premiere: Sun Feb 14 at 4 pm

Available on demand through Wed Feb 24

Two of the most sought-after recitalists on the international stage join forces in this special concert, filmed from James Ehnes's home specifically for UMS audiences. Ehnes is a Canadian violinist now living in Florida who won a Grammy Award in 2019 for "Best Classical Instrumental Solo." He is joined by his long-time recital partner Orion Weiss for this UMS recital.

PROGRAM

Schubert	Sonatina in g minor for Violin and Piano, D. 408
Saint-Saëns	Sonata No. 1 in d minor for Violin and Piano, Op. 75

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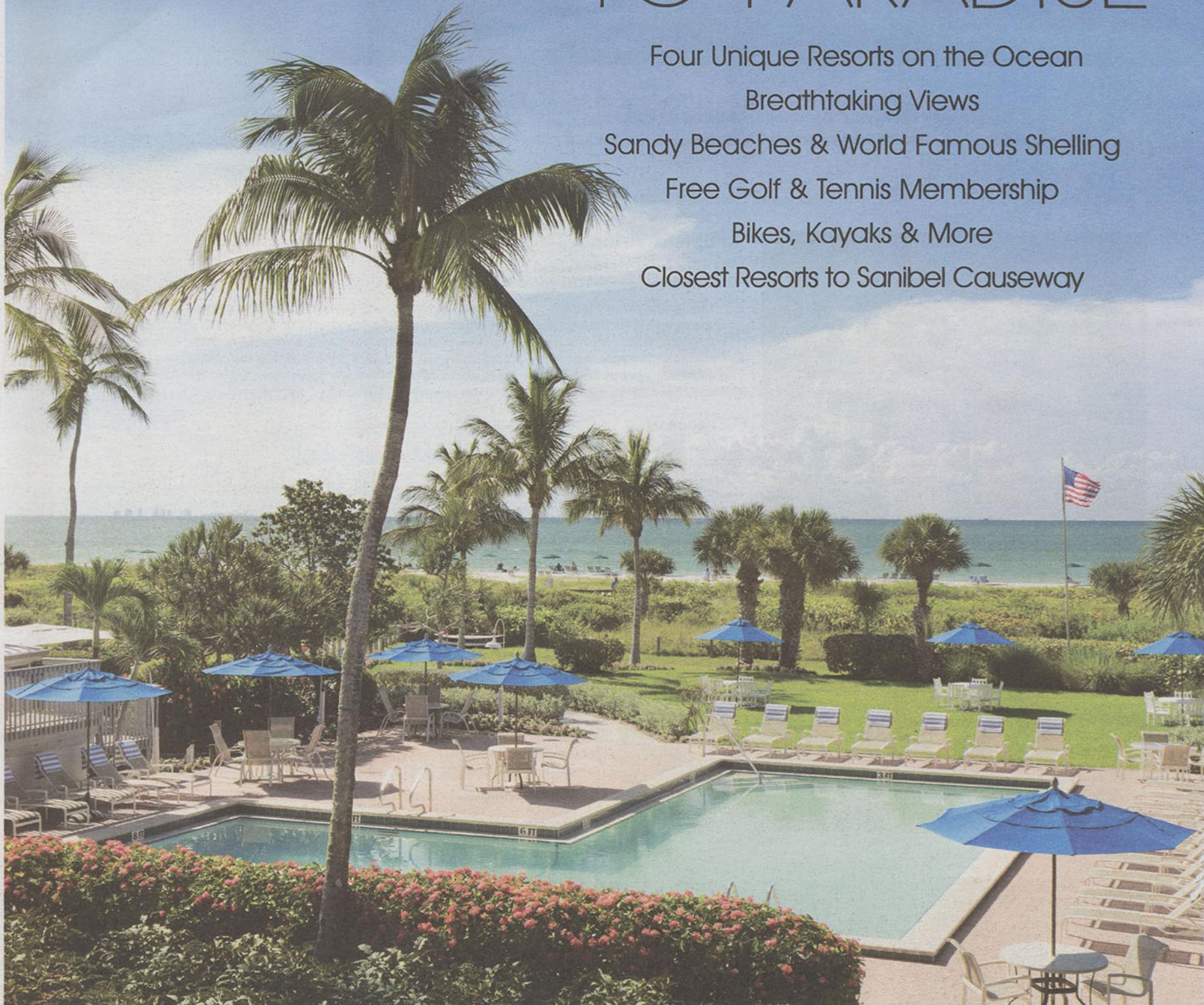
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